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House of Representatives

The House met at 12:30 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
July 10, 2000.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JUDY BIGGERT to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed a bill and a concurrent resolution of the following titles in which the concurrence of the House is requested.

S. 2071. An act to benefit electricity consumers by promoting the reliability of the bulk-power system.

S. Con. Res. 129. Concurrent Resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding the importance and value of education in United States history.

MORNING HOUR DEBATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 19, 1999, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning hour debates. The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to not to exceed 30 minutes, and each Member, except the majority leader, the minority leader, or the minority whip, limited to not to exceed 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. WELLER) for 5 minutes.

THE MARRIAGE TAX PENALTY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 19, 1999, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. WELLER) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. WELLER. Madam Speaker, over the last several years many of us have asked a question that we hear back at home time and time again. I represent the South Side of Chicago, the south suburbs, Cook and Will Counties, communities like Joliet, bedroom communities like Morris, Frankfort, a lot of farm towns.

I find whether I am in the city, the suburbs, or the country people often ask a pretty basic, fundamental question. That is, they ask a question: Is it right, is it fair that under our tax code 25 million married working couples pay on average \$1,400 more in taxes just because they are married? They ask that fundamental question of fairness: Is it right, is it fair, that under our Tax Code if one chooses to get married, their taxes are going to go up?

We call that the marriage tax penalty, and it occurs where we have a husband and wife who are both in the work force, a two-earner household who, when they choose to join together in holy matrimony, one of our society's most basic institutions, they end up paying higher taxes than if they stayed single or got divorced. The vast majority of folks back home tell me they believe that is wrong.

The marriage tax penalty essentially works this way. Let me introduce a couple here, Shad and Michelle Hallihan, two public school teachers from Joliet, Illinois. They just had a baby this year and are starting a family. But because they are both in the work force, they suffer on average the average marriage tax penalty of almost \$1,400.

Back home in Joliet that \$1,400, that is 3 months of day care for their child at the local day care center while they

both teach. That is a year's tuition at Joliet Junior College. The marriage tax penalty on average is real money to real people.

For some here in this House and some over in the Senate, particularly the folks down at the White House, they want to spend that money here in Washington rather than letting good folks like Shad and Michelle Hallihan keep what they suffer in the marriage tax penalty, money they could spend on their newborn baby.

Madam Speaker, Shad and Michelle's marriage tax penalty occurs because when we are married, we file jointly, we combine our income. So Shad and Michelle with their current income, if they stayed single or just chose to live together, they would each pay in the 15 percent tax bracket. But because they combine their income when they file jointly, they are forced to pay in a higher tax bracket, which causes them to pay \$1,400 more in higher taxes.

I am proud to say as a key part of the Republican agenda this year this House passed overwhelmingly the Marriage Tax Elimination Act, H.R. 6. Every Republican and thankfully 48 Democrats broke ranks with their leadership and said they, too, wanted to eliminate the marriage tax penalty. We passed it out of the House with overwhelming bipartisan support.

Unfortunately, I guess I should congratulate the Senate Democrats because they prevented the Marriage Tax Elimination Act from moving through the Senate. Of course, we are now moving it through the budget process to get around their parliamentary procedure that they are using to prevent us from eliminating the marriage tax penalty.

Later this week we are going to be voting on an agreement between the House and Senate which essentially wipes out the marriage tax for 25 million couples. In fact, the legislation we will be voting on later this week is

This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

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identical to what the House passed earlier this year, doubling the standard deduction for joint filers to twice that of singles. That will help those who do not itemize their taxes who suffer the marriage tax penalty, essentially wiping it out for every one of them.

We also widen the 15 percent bracket so joint filers can earn twice as much as single filers in the 15 percent tax bracket. The benefit of that is that means if one is an itemizer, someone who owns a home, and most middle class family do, that is why they itemize their taxes, they, too, will see their marriage tax penalty eliminated.

There are some on the other side and those at the White House who say, well, maybe we will do a little marriage tax relief, and we will just help those who do not itemize. So they are saying if one owns a home and is married and suffers the marriage tax penalty, that is tough. Bill Clinton, AL GORE, want them to continue suffering the marriage tax penalty.

Madam Speaker, I believe there is a need to help everyone who suffers the marriage tax penalty, whether they own a home or not, whether they itemize their taxes or not.

We have a great opportunity this week, Madam Speaker. I invite every Democrat to join with every Republican in voting to eliminate the marriage tax penalty. Think what it means to young couples like Shad and Michelle Hallihan, two hard-working public school teachers from Joliet, Illinois, who, because they chose to live together in holy matrimony and chose to join together in marriage, now suffer the marriage tax penalty. We are going to help them by eliminating the marriage tax penalty.

Madam Speaker, I want to invite everyone in this House to join together in helping good people like Shad and Michelle Hallihan. Let us do it. Let us eliminate the marriage tax penalty. Let us do it in a bipartisan way. I hope this time the President will sign it into law.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 38 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: Eternal God, source of all authority under the heavens, and true Spirit who governs the world, renew us in Your image and make us a holy Nation.

Help young and old alike to comply to the laws of this land and offer respect to all who hold positions of rightful authority.

May Your Spirit stir in each human heart a gracious freedom that chooses to obey. May people everywhere embrace laws which assure good order and protect the life and liberty of all.

Give all lawmakers, this day, prudence and wisdom so that citizens may see Your holy will in true governance, both in good times and in bad times. For You live and govern now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause I, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives.

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, June 30, 2000.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted to Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on June 30, 2000 at 1:25 p.m.

S. 148: That the Senate Agreed to House amendment.

H.R. 4425: That the Senate Agreed to conference report.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

JEFF TRANDAH,
Clerk of the House.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the Speaker signed the following enrolled bill on Friday, June 30, 2000:

H.R. 4425, making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes.

And the Speaker pro tempore signed the following enrolled bill on Tuesday, July 4, 2000:

S. 148, to require the Secretary of the Interior to establish a program to provide assistance in the conservation of neotropical migratory birds.

APPOINTMENT AS MEMBER TO ABRAHAM LINCOLN BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to Section 5(a) of the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission Act (36 U.S.C. 101 note) and the order of the House of Thursday, June 29, 2000, the Speaker on Friday, June 30, 2000, appointed the following member on the part of the House to the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission to fill the existing vacancy thereon:

Ms. Lura Lynn Ryan, Kankakee, Illinois.

COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the chairman of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, which was read and, without objection, referred to the Committee on Appropriations:

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE,
Washington, DC, June 27, 2000.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Enclosed please find copies of resolutions approved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on June 21, 2000, in accordance with 40 U.S.C. §606.

With warm regards, I remain
Sincerely,

BUD SHUSTER,
Chairman.

There was no objection.

GAS PRICES SKYROCKET BECAUSE OF ADMINISTRATION

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Madam Speaker, every American with a car cannot help but notice how gas prices are skyrocketing out of control. Before summer began, the Clinton-Gore administration released a report showing that Americans could be paying as much as \$1.80 a gallon for gas by this summer.

But, lo and behold, the Clinton Administration is no better at predicting gas prices than they are at protecting our Nation's most classified nuclear secrets. In many Midwest and Western States, prices so far are higher than \$1.80; how about \$2.35 a gallon and rising?

Vice President GORE, now touting his risky scheme to cut gas taxes, seems to forget that in 1993 he cast the tie-

breaking vote to increase gas taxes, adding to the tax burden of seniors and working families in this country.

When it comes to keeping gas prices reasonable, the Clinton-Gore administration has failed the American people; and now, unfortunately, the American people are paying at the pump for this administration's mistake.

SUPREME COURT DECISIONS CONFUSING AMERICA

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Madam Speaker, the courts have struck again. First, it is now perfectly legal to jab scissors into the brain of a full-term baby being delivered until the baby dies; second, Internet pornography is now perfectly legal, even for kids.

Think about it. The courts have ruled Communists can work in our defense plants, full-term babies can be killed, pornography, even for kids, is legal; but you cannot pray in school.

Beam me up. No wonder America is confused and screwed up.

I yield back the brains of these judges that evidently they have been sitting on for a long time.

TAX RELIEF FOR MARRIED AMERICANS

(Mr. WELLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WELLER. Madam Speaker, let me ask a basic question of fundamental fairness: Is it right, is it fair, that under our Tax Code, 25 million married working couples on average pay \$1,400 more in taxes just because they are married?

Is it right that under our Tax Code that a husband and wife who are both in the workforce are forced to pay higher taxes if they choose to get married and the only way to avoid the marriage tax penalty is either to get divorced or just not get married?

Madam Speaker, that is wrong, and I am so proud this House of Representatives passed overwhelmingly legislation to wipe out the marriage tax penalty for 25 million married working couples. This week we are going to pass legislation, agreement with the House and Senate, which will wipe out the marriage tax penalty for 25 million married working couples. I was proud to see that every House Republican supported H.R. 6, and 48 Democrats broke with their leadership to support our efforts.

I want to extend an invitation to my Democratic friends on other side of the aisle to join with us and make it a bipartisan effort to eliminate the marriage tax penalty. It is unfair; it is wrong. It is wrong to tax marriage. Let us eliminate the marriage tax penalty.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair announces that she will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record votes on postponed questions will be taken after debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules, but not before 6 p.m. today.

SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING IMPORTANCE AND VALUE OF EDUCATION IN UNITED STATES HISTORY

Mr. PETRI. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 129) expressing the sense of Congress regarding the importance and value of education in United States history.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. CON. RES. 129

Whereas basic knowledge of United States history is essential to full and informed participation in civic life and to the larger vibrancy of the American experiment in self-government;

Whereas basic knowledge of the past serves as a civic glue, binding together a diverse people into a single Nation with a common purpose;

Whereas citizens who lack knowledge of United States history will also lack an understanding and appreciation of the democratic principles that define and sustain the Nation as a free people, such as liberty, justice, tolerance, government by the consent of the governed, and equality under the law;

Whereas a recent Roper survey done for the American Council of Trustees and Alumni reveals that the next generation of American leaders and citizens is in danger of losing America's civic memory;

Whereas the Roper survey found that 81 percent of seniors at elite colleges and universities could not answer basic high school level questions concerning United States history, that scarcely more than half knew general information about American democracy and the Constitution, and that only 22 percent could identify the source of the most famous line of the Gettysburg Address;

Whereas many of the Nation's colleges and universities no longer require United States history as a prerequisite to graduation, including 100 percent of the top institutions of higher education;

Whereas 78 percent of the Nation's top colleges and universities no longer require the study of any form of history;

Whereas America's colleges and universities are leading bellwethers of national priorities and values, setting standards for the whole of the United States' education system and sending signals to students, teachers, parents, and public schools about what every educated citizen in a democracy must know;

Whereas many of America's most distinguished historians and intellectuals have expressed alarm about the growing historical illiteracy of college and university graduates and the consequences for the Nation; and

Whereas the distinguished historians and intellectuals fear that without a common civic memory and a common understanding

of the remarkable individuals, events, and ideals that have shaped the Nation, people in the United States risk losing much of what it means to be an American, as well as the ability to fulfill the fundamental responsibilities of citizens in a democracy: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the historical illiteracy of America's college and university graduates is a serious problem that should be addressed by the Nation's higher education community;

(2) boards of trustees and administrators at institutions of higher education in the United States should review their curricula and add requirements in United States history;

(3) State officials responsible for higher education should review public college and university curricula in their States and promote requirements in United States history;

(4) parents should encourage their children to select institutions of higher education with substantial history requirements and students should take courses in United States history whether required or not; and

(5) history teachers and educators at all levels should redouble their efforts to bolster the knowledge of United States history among students of all ages and to restore the vitality of America's civic memory.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. PETRI) and the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. PETRI).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PETRI. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on S. Con. Res. 129.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Wisconsin?

There was no objection.

Mr. PETRI. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of Senate Concurrent Resolution 129, which is identical to House Concurrent Resolution 366, a resolution introduced in the House before the Independence Day recess.

I would like first to thank the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARMEY), the House majority leader, and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GOODLING), chairman of the House Committee on Education and Workforce, whose cooperation has expedited the consideration of this resolution. I would also like to thank Senators LIEBERMAN and GORTON for their support of this resolution and commend the Senate for passing it on the Friday before the 4th of July holiday.

I am pleased to be here today with my colleague from California as cosponsor to offer this resolution to draw attention to the troubling historical illiteracy of our Nation's next generation of leaders. Senate Concurrent Resolution 129 expresses the sense of Congress regarding the importance and value of education in American history.

The need for this resolution is demonstrated by a Roper Center survey commissioned by the American Council of Trustees and Alumni. The Roper Center surveyed college seniors from the Nation's best colleges and universities as identified by the U.S. News & World Report's annual college rankings.

Specifically, the top 55 liberal arts colleges and research universities were sampled during the month of December 1999. The results of this survey revealed that seniors from America's elite colleges and universities received a grade of D or F on history questions drawn from a basic high school exam. Seniors could not identify Valley Forge, words from the Gettysburg Address, or even the basic principles of the United States Constitution.

Despite this lack of knowledge, according to reports by the American Council of Trustees and Alumni, many of today's colleges and universities no longer demand that their students study U.S. history. Students can now graduate from all of the top colleges and universities without taking a single course in U.S. history. At 78 percent of the institutions, students are not required to take any history at all.

Madam Speaker, I believe we should be alarmed by the findings of this study. When we lose our civic memory, when we lose our understanding of the remarkable individuals, events, and values that have shaped our experiment in self-government, we are losing much of what it means to be an American. We are losing sight of the responsibilities we share as citizens in a free democracy.

Having just celebrated the 4th of July, our Nation's day of independence and freedom, a day that evokes strong emotions and feelings of pride in our country, I believe it is particularly appropriate to emphasize our need to know and to understand U.S. history.

Madam Speaker, I include the following material for the RECORD:

[From the New York Times, June 28, 2000]

BASIC HISTORY TEST STUMPS MANY COLLEGIANS

WASHINGTON, June 27—Nearly 80 percent of seniors at 55 top colleges and universities, including Harvard and Princeton, received a D or an F on a 34-question high-school level test on American history.

More than a third of the students did not know that the Constitution established the division of power in American government, said the Center for Survey Research and Analysis at the University of Connecticut, which administered the test as part of a study to measure the teaching of American history.

Students were much more knowledgeable about popular culture—99 percent of the seniors tested identified "Beavis and Butthead" as "television cartoon characters."

But confronted with four options in a multiple-choice test, only 35 percent could name who was president when the Korean War began. And only 23 percent identified James Madison as the principal framer of the Constitution.

Asked the era in which the Civil War was fought, 40 percent did not know the correct period, 1850-1900.

Senator Joseph I. Lieberman, Democrat of Connecticut, said that he and other members of Congress would introduce resolutions calling on college and state officials to strengthen American history requirements at all levels of the educational system.

The study, sponsored by the American Council of Trustees and Alumni, found that none of the 55 institutions required American history for graduation. And only 78 percent of them required students to take any history classes, said Jerry Martin, one of the report's authors.

The history test was given by telephone to 556 college seniors chosen at random. The questions were drawn from a basic high school curriculum, and many had been used in the National Assessment of Education Program tests given to high school students.

[From the New York Times, July 2, 2000]

HISTORY 101: SNOOP DOGGY ROOSEVELT

(By Scott Veale)

Listen up, class. We hate to spoil your holiday weekend, but an alarming new survey of American history knowledge—released just days before Independence Day, no less—suggests that the nation is in desperate need of summer school. The report, sponsored by the American Council of Trustees and Alumni, a Washington-based nonprofit group that promotes liberal-arts study, posed 34 high-school level questions randomly to 556 seniors at 55 leading colleges and universities, including Harvard, Princeton and Brown.

Only one student answered all the questions correctly, and the average score was a sobering 53 percent—even with a couple of gimmies about cartoon characters and rap stars tossed in. But maybe it's not too surprising: according to the survey, none of the schools examined require American history courses for graduation.

So put down those tube steaks and sharpen your pencils. It's time to match wits with tomorrow's leaders.

1. When was the Civil War?
 - a. 1750-1800
 - b. 1800-1850
 - c. 1850-1900
 - d. 1900-1950
 - e. after 1950
2. Who said "Give me liberty or give me death?"
 - a. John Hancock
 - b. James Madison
 - c. Patrick Henry
 - d. Samuel Adams
3. What is the Magna Carta?
 - a. The foundation of the British parliamentary system
 - b. The Great Seal of the monarchs of England
 - c. The French Declaration of the Rights of Man
 - d. The charter signed by the Pilgrims on the Mayflower
4. The term Reconstruction refers to:
 - a. Payment of European countries' debts to the United States after the First World War
 - b. Repairing of the physical damage caused by the Civil War
 - c. Readmission of the Confederate states and the protection of the rights of black citizens
 - d. Rebuilding of the transcontinental railroad and the canal system
5. Are Beavis and Butthead . . .
 - a. A radio show
 - b. Television cartoon characters
 - c. A musical group
 - d. Fictional soldiers
6. The Scopes trial was about:
 - a. Freedom of the press
 - b. Teaching evolution in the schools
 - c. Prayer in the schools
 - d. Education in private schools

7. The Emancipation Proclamation issued by Lincoln stated that:

- a. Slaves were free in areas of the Confederate states not held by the Union
- b. The slave trade was illegal
- c. Slaves who fled to Canada would be protected
- d. Slavery was abolished in the Union

8. The purpose of the authors of the Federalist Papers was to:

- a. Establish a strong, free press in the colonies
- b. Confirm George Washington's election as the first president
- c. Win foreign approval for the Revolutionary War
- d. Gain ratification of the U.S. Constitution

9. Sputnik was the name given to the first:

- a. Telecommunications system
- b. Animal to travel into space
- c. Hydrogen bomb
- d. Man-made satellite

10. The Missouri Compromise was the act that:

- a. Funded the Lewis and Clark expedition on the upper Missouri River
- b. Granted statehood to Missouri but denied the admission of any other states
- c. Settled the boundary dispute between Missouri and Kansas
- d. Admitted Maine into the Union as a free state and Missouri as a slave state

11. Which document established the division of powers between the states and the federal government?

- a. The Marshall Plan
- b. The Constitution
- c. The Declaration of Independence
- d. The Articles of Confederation

12. When was Thomas Jefferson president?

- a. 1780-1800
- b. 1800-1820
- c. 1820-1840
- d. 1840-1860
- e. 1860-1880

13. What was the lowest point in American fortunes in the Revolutionary War?

- a. Saratoga
- b. Bunker Hill
- c. Valley Forge
- d. Fort Ticonderoga

14. In his farewell address, President George Washington warned against the danger of:

- a. Expanding into territories beyond the Appalachian Mountains
- b. Having war with Spain over Mexico
- c. Entering into permanent alliances with foreign governments
- d. Building a standing army and strong navy

15. The Monroe Doctrine declared that:

- a. The American blockade of Cuba was in accord with international law
- b. Europe should not acquire new territories in Western Hemisphere
- c. Trade with China should be open to all Western nations
- d. The annexation of the Philippines was legitimate

16. Who was the European who traveled in the United States and wrote down perceptive comments about what he saw in "Democracy in America"?

- a. Lafayette
- b. Tocqueville
- c. Crevecoeur
- d. Napoleon

17. Identify Snoop Doggy Dog.

- a. A rap singer
- b. Cartoon by Charles Schultz
- c. A mystery series
- d. A jazz pianist

18. Abraham Lincoln was president between:

- a. 1780-1800
- b. 1800-1820

- c. 1820–1840
- d. 1840–1860
- e. 1860–1880
- 19. Who was the American general at Yorktown?
 - a. William T. Sherman
 - b. Ulysses S. Grant
 - c. Douglas McArthur
 - d. George Washington
- 20. John Marshall was the author of:
 - a. Roe v. Wade
 - b. Dred Scott v. Kansas
 - c. Marbury v. Madison
 - d. Brown v. Board of Education
- 21. Who was the “Father of the Constitution?”
 - a. George Washington
 - b. Thomas Jefferson
 - c. Benjamin Franklin
 - d. James Madison
- 22. Who said, “I regret that I have only one life to give for my country?”
 - a. John F. Kennedy
 - b. Benedict Arnold
 - c. John Brown
 - d. Nathan Hale
- 23. What was the source of the following phrase: “Government of the people, by the people, for the people?”
 - a. The speech: “I have a Dream?”
 - b. Declaration of Independence
 - c. U.S. Constitution
 - d. Gettysburg Address
- 24. Who was the second president of the U.S.?
 - a. Thomas Jefferson
 - b. James Madison
 - c. John Adams
 - d. Benjamin Franklin
- 25. Who was president when the U.S. purchased the Panama Canal?
 - a. Theodore Roosevelt
 - b. Jimmy Carter
 - c. Franklin D. Roosevelt
 - d. Woodrow Wilson
- 26. Who was the leading advocate for the U.S. entry into the League of Nations?
 - a. George C. Marshall
 - b. Woodrow Wilson
 - c. Henry Cabot Lodge
 - d. Eleanor Roosevelt
- 27. Who said, “Speak softly but carry a big stick?”
 - a. William T. Sherman
 - b. Sitting Bull
 - c. John D. Rockefeller
 - d. Theodore Roosevelt
- 28. The Battle of the Bulge occurred during:
 - a. The Vietnam War
 - b. World War II
 - c. World War I
 - d. The Civil War
- 29. Which of the following was a prominent leader of the Abolitionist Movement?
 - a. Malcolm X
 - b. Martin Luther King Jr.
 - c. W.E.B. Du Bois
 - d. Frederick Douglass
- 30. Who was the president of the United States at the beginning of the Korean War?
 - a. John F. Kennedy
 - b. Franklin D. Roosevelt
 - c. Dwight Eisenhower
 - d. Harry Truman
- 31. When the United States entered World War II, which two major nations were allied with Germany?
 - a. Italy and Japan
 - b. Italy and Poland
 - c. Italy and Russia
 - d. Russia and Japan
- 32. Social legislation passed under President Lyndon B. Johnson’s Great Society program included:
 - a. The Sherman Antitrust Act
 - b. The Voting Rights Act
 - c. The Tennessee Valley Authority

- d. The Civilian Conservation Corps
- 33. Who was “First in war, first in peace, first in the hearts of his countrymen?”
 - a. George Washington
 - b. Woodrow Wilson
 - c. Dwight Eisenhower
 - d. Abraham Lincoln
- 34. Who was the leader of the Soviet Union when the United States entered World War II?
 - a. Peter Ustinov
 - b. Nikita Khrushchev
 - c. Marshal Tito
 - d. Joseph Stalin

[From the Washington Post, July 2, 2000]

NEGLECTING HISTORY . . .

(By David S. Broder)

A question for you before you set off your fireworks: Who was the American general at Yorktown? You have four guesses: William Tecumseh Sherman, Ulysses S. Grant, Douglas MacArthur or George Washington.

When that question was asked late last year of 556 randomly chosen seniors at 55 top-rated colleges and universities, one out of three got it right. Stunningly, more of those about to graduate from great liberal arts colleges such as Amherst and Williams and Grinnell and world-class universities such as Harvard and Duke and the University of Michigan named Grant, the victorious general in the Civil War, than Washington, the commander of the Continental Army, as the man who defeated the British in the final battle of the Revolutionary War.

That was not the worst. Only 22 percent could identify the Gettysburg Address as the source of the phrase “government of the people, by the people, for the people.” Most thought it came from the Declaration of Independence or the Constitution.

The results of this survey, using 34 questions normally asked of high school students, not elite college and university seniors, justify the term “historical illiteracy.” That is what four members of Congress called the situation in a joint resolution they introduced last week warning that “the next generation of American leaders and citizens is in danger of losing America’s civic memory.”

Congress can do nothing but decry the situation. As Sen. Joe Lieberman of Connecticut, one of the sponsors, said, “We are not here to establish a national curriculum.” But the challenge to parents and to educators is not to be ignored.

The college student poll was taken for a private group, the American Council of Trustees and Alumni. Its report makes two points: If these high school questions were used as a college test, 65 percent of the college students would flunk. Equally troubling, it said, none of the 55 elite colleges and universities (as rated by U.S. News & World Report) requires a course in American history before graduation.

This, I would add, despite the fact that it has been known for a long time that high school students aren’t learning much about our history from their teachers. The most recent report from the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) was in 1994, and it too was devastating. That massive survey found that even though most students reported having taken American history in the eighth and 11th grades, little of it stuck. “Few students (11 percent) reached the proficient achievement level—defined as solid grade-level performance—and only 1 or 2 percent reached the advanced achievement level,” the report said. Fully 57 percent of the high school seniors failed to demonstrate a basic level of understanding of American history and institutions—the lowest category in the test.

The Council of Trustees and Alumni, whose chairman is Lynne V. Cheney, is engaged in an ongoing debate with academics over a range of curriculum issues. But on this one, I found the heads of the major historical groups largely in agreement.

Dr. Arnita Jones, executive director of the American Historical Association told me, “Of course, students should be taking American history, and I would extend that to world history as well.” But she said that on too many campuses, “resources are being pulled away from history and given to areas that seem to be more practical.”

The reaction of Kenneth T. Jackson, the president of the Organization of American Historians and a professor at Columbia University, one of the elite schools whose students were surveyed, was more skeptical. He said, “The best colleges and universities have strong history departments and high enrollments. The smarter you are and the better college you attend, the more likely you are to take history.”

But he said that in his first message to his fellow academics as association president, “I said we don’t take our teaching seriously enough. We may be too free to teach our own speciality, rather than what students need to know. If you have a big department, it usually works out, but sometimes the only course that’s open may be a history of 19th-century railroads in Tennessee.”

As Lieberman said, “With the Fourth fast approaching, I can think of no better way to celebrate the anniversary of America’s independence than for us to remember what moved a determined band of patriots to lay down all for liberty, and then to promise never to forget.” Of course, you can’t forget what you never learned.

[From World News Now, July 3, 2000]

A HISTORY SURVEY TAKEN AT 55 TOP COLLEGES IN U.S.

ANDERSON COOPER. A new survey shows that most college seniors don’t know jack about American history. Jim Sciutto here was an American history major but we’ll talk to him about that later. Seniors at 55 top colleges and universities including Harvard and Princeton, almost 80 percent of them got a D or an F on a high school level history test. Apparently only 23 percent knew that James Madison was a principle framer of the Constitution. But on the upside, 99 percent knew who Beavis and Butt-head were. Don’t worry, sleep safely.

GEORGE WILL. Yes, Beavis—Identify Beavis and Butt-head. That was one of the questions.

DEREK MCGINTY. Three percent missed that, though, which I was wondering who they were.

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS. I’ll—I’ll—I’ll confess. I took the test and I got—I got two wrong. But I think George is on to something. I actually taught at—at Columbia the last couple of years, and they have a core curriculum which helps. What I saw among the students now is they’re in some ways very—so much smarter than students in the past. Their SAT scores are through the roof, but they don’t necessarily know as much because they’re not getting this concentrated teaching in history and other subjects.

SAM DONALDSON. Derek, a lot of white Americans look at some courses that introduce African history at the expense of US history and they say, ‘They got it wrong.’

Mr. MCGINTY. Well, I mean, you’re acting like there’s only room for one. I think you have to have an inclusive view of history . . .

Mr. DONALDSON. I’m not acting any way, but I’m asking you about that because what I told you is correct. A lot of white Americans look at these courses and say, ‘Well, I should be studying Texas history.’

Mr. MCGINTY. Well, I think they should be studying history as it—as it goes. It shouldn't be African or anything else. It—it never was that before, you know. Just when it was—to began to become—become more inclusive, suddenly it was African or whatever. I think that there is room to have a wide-ranging knowledge without leaving out anybody's history.

Mr. COOPER. And that was some of "This Week" from yesterday.

JIM SCIUTTO. We have the quiz right here. And Anderson has not taken it, so I'm going to take this opportunity to ask him a couple of questions.

Mr. COOPER. Uh-huh. Do you know what they teach you in your first year of correspondence—of anchor school, by the way?

Mr. SCIUTTO. Never be quizzed on air, right.

Mr. COOPER. Exactly.

Mr. SCIUTTO. George W. Bush should have learned that lesson.

Mr. COOPER. Do you want to know what other questions you're never suppose to . . .

Mr. SCIUTTO. See, he's stalling so I can't ask him a single question.

Mr. COOPER. I'm using up time is what I'm doing.

Mr. DONALDSON. I want to now come to something that has nothing to do with politics. It has to do with education. Published in the New York Times is an interesting History 101 quiz. It was not given by the Times, but someone gave this to 55 universities. These are college seniors and Harvard and other prestigious schools were included. Here were some of the questions and some of the percentages of right answers.

Number one. Folks, play along. Who was the American general at Yorktown? William T. Sherman, Ulysses S. Grant, Douglas McArthur, George Washington. Derek:

Mr. MCGINTY. George Washington.

Mr. DONALDSON. Well, only 34 percent—34 percent—got that right.

Number two. John Marshall was the author of *Roe vs. Wade*, *Dred Scott* and *Kansas, Murbury vs. Madison*, *Brown vs. the Board of Education*. George:

Mr. WILL. *Murbury vs. Madison*.

Mr. DONALDSON. That's correct. I mean, the great chief justice. Twenty-one percent of college seniors got that right.

Number three. The Battle of the Bulge occurred during the Vietnam War, World War II, World War I, the Civil War. I could add the Peloponnesian War. George Will:

Mr. WILL. World War II.

Mr. DONALDSON. World War II.

Mr. WILL. Sam . . .

Mr. DONALDSON. Well, let me just tell them—only 37 percent got that right. But what do you make of this?

Mr. WILL. Well, all of these seniors at some very prestigious schools, I don't know all of them, but they included Harvard, Princeton and Brown. All these schools had one thing in common: none of them have an American History prerequisite requirement for graduation.

Mr. DONALDSON. Why not?

Mr. WILL. Well, that's an excellent question, having seen that.

Mr. MCGINTY. If we're fair, though, some of those questions that had the lower percentages—because some of the answers 70 and 80 percent did get correct—some of the more obscure questions were . . .

Mr. SCIUTTO. Who said "Give me liberty or give me death?"

Mr. COOPER. And my options are?

Mr. SCIUTTO. Patrick Henry, James Madison, John Hancock, or Samuel Adams.

Mr. COOPER. Patrick Henry.

Mr. SCIUTTO. Right on. You're watching World News Now.

[From CNN Late Edition With Wolf Blitzer
July 2, 2000]

WOLF BLITZER. Time now for Bruce Morton's "Last Word." On this holiday

weekend, when we celebrate America's past, some, it seems, may have to go back and hit the history books.

BRUCE MORTON, CNN correspondent. Independence Day is coming up—a good time to think about U.S. history, a subject America's young adults may not have a very good grasp of these days. A new survey asked randomly selected seniors from the country's top colleges and universities, among them Amherst, Harvard, Stanford, 34 multiple choice questions about American history.

Ninety-nine percent knew that Beavis and Butt-head were TV cartoon characters. Eighty-nine percent knew that Sputnik was the first man-made satellite. Just one in four, 26 percent, knew that the emancipation Proclamation said that slaves in Confederate territory were free. Just 60 percent knew that the Constitution was the document which established the division of powers between the states and the federal government.

Thirty-eight percent correctly said Valley Forge was the lowest point in America fortunes during the Revolutionary War. Twenty-four percent said Bunker Hill was. Asked who was the American general at Yorktown, where the British surrendered ending the Revolutionary War, 34 percent correctly said George Washington, but 37 percent picked Ulysses Grant, a Union general in the Civil War.

Only 23 percent, correctly picked James Madison as the father of the Constitution. Fifty-three percent Thomas Jefferson, who instead wrote the Declaration of Independence, signed 224 years ago this week.

Forty percent knew it was accused spy Nathan Hale who said, "I regret that I have only one life to give for my country." Just 22 percent knew that the phrase "government of the people, by the people, and for the people" came from Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. Thirty-one percent said the U.S. Constitution, 43 percent the Declaration of Independence.

One student of the 556 surveyed got all 34 questions right. Two students tied for worst—two questions right, the score of 6 percent. Overall, the average was 53 percent right. Put another way, if this had been a regular college test, 65 percent would have flunked, 16 percent gotten Ds, and 19 percent C or higher. Why such poor scores? Maybe because 100 percent of the colleges and universities in this survey, require no American history courses; 78 percent require no history at all.

A philosopher named George Santayana once wrote, "Those who do not remember the past are condemned to repeat it." What if he was right?

Happy Independence Day.

I'm Bruce Morton.

[From the Chicago Tribune, July 2, 2000]

JEFFERSON, NOT "THE JEFFERSONS"

(By William Hageman)

Another wave of college graduates is heading off into the real world, armed with degrees and eager to make their mark. Just don't ask them anything about history.

The American Council of Trustees and Alumni recently commissioned a survey of more than 500 college seniors from some of the top colleges and universities in the U.S. According to the results, four out of five seniors quizzed received a grade of D or F on history questions drawn from a basic high school curriculum. How bad was it?

—Only 34 percent of the students surveyed could identify George Washington as an American general at the Battle of Yorktown, the culminating battle of the American Revolution.

—Only 22 percent knew the line "Government of the people, by the people, for the people" came from the Gettysburg Address.

—Only 26 percent were familiar with the Emancipation Proclamation.

But all is not lost. Ninety-nine percent of the students knew who the cartoon characters Beavis and Butt-head are, and 98 percent could identify the rap singer Snoop Doggy Dogg.

On second thought, maybe all is lost.

[From the Boston Herald, July 2, 2000]

HISTORY'S GREEK TO THEM

"Don't know much about history," goes the refrain to an old pop tune. According to a survey by the American Council of Trustees and Alumni, it should be the theme song at America's elite institutions of higher education.

In the survey of seniors at 55 of the nation's top schools, including Harvard and Princeton, nearly 80 percent received a "D" or "F" grade on a 34-question, high-school level American history exam.

Most didn't know that the U.S. Constitution establishes a division of power in the national government—a real brain-teaser.

While 99 percent were familiar with the foul-mouthed cartoon characters Beavis and Butt-head, only 23 percent identified James Madison as the principal framer of the Constitution.

None of these colleges has an American history graduation requirement, and 78 percent have no history requirement at all.

Public schools share responsibility for this tragedy. American history is too often relegated to minor league status, squeezed in amid the trendy programs du jour.

Sen. Joseph Lieberman, (D-Conn.), and others have introduced a resolution calling on administrators, trustees and state officials to strengthen the teaching of American history at all levels. When you're starting with next to nothing, there's nowhere to go but up.

[From the Dayton Daily News, July 5, 2000]

INFO-AGE STUDENTS MISSING IT

(By Mary McCarty)

Welcome back to work. If we can believe our daily newspapers—and of course we can, every blessed word—we spent this extravagant gift of a four-day weekend in style: traveling, barbecuing, ooh-ing and aah-ing over dozens of area fireworks displays.

But not, apparently, teaching our young anything about the significance of the holiday.

Sunday's New York Times raised the question: What in Bunker Hill do our college seniors know about history?

The Times reported that a Washington-based nonprofit, the American Council of Trustees and Alumni, conducted a survey of 556 seniors at 55 "leading colleges," including Harvard and Brown. They asked 32 high school-level history questions, throwing in a couple of pop-culture gimmicks.

One student scored 100 percent. The average score was 53 percent.

Ninety-nine percent could identify Beavis and Butt-head as cartoon characters.

But, given four multiple-choice answers—with the answers staring them in the face as expectantly as Regis Philbin—a mere 22 percent could place the phrase "Government of the people, by the people, for the people" in the Gettysburg Address.

Ninety-eight percent knew that Snoop Doggy Dog is a rap artist; 28 percent knew the Battle of the Bulge took place in World War II.

Thirty-eight percent guessed that the "lowest point in the Revolutionary War" was Valley Forge.

Yikes! These are the scions of the Information Age. An unprecedented amount of

knowledge is literally at their fingertips, only a mouse click away. Miles and miles and miles of memory. Yet their cultural memory banks appear to be running alarmingly low.

Is that their fault or ours?

How long has it been since American history was truly part of the national conversation?

Over the four-day weekend, we did Fourth of July with all the trimmings: Fireworks, hot dogs and mustard, cookouts. Only once, during that time, did any of our friends mention the significance of the holiday. That was Zafar Rizvi of Butler Twp. He was born in Pakistan.

He brought us an essay making the Internet rounds, "Remembering Independence Day." "Have you ever wondered what happened to the 56 men who signed the Declaration of Independence?" the essay begins, and proceeds to elaborate, in gruesome detail.

At Zafar's insistence, we reluctantly turned our attention away from the grill. "I didn't know any of these things!" he exclaimed.

He wanted to know. "I think a lot of times people take for granted the freedom that they have—the right to vote, freedom of religion, the right to change the system," he said. "I never voted until I became an American citizen."

Zafar hasn't missed a change to vote in 15 years. He brings his 9-year-old son with him. He wears an "I voted" sticker back to the office.

He thinks it's important not only that we exercise our present-day freedoms, but also that we remember and celebrate our past. "A lot of people don't know the sacrifices made by their grandparents and great-grandparents," he said. "The Fourth of July is always a great feeling. I'm proud to be an American."

Maybe Harvard should appoint him honorary professor. We seem to be in danger of raising future generations with gigabytes of information instantly at their disposal.

And none of it engraved in their hearts.

[From the Hartford Courant, July 2, 2000]

HISTORY IS A MYSTERY TO MANY

Maybe it's not surprising that far more college seniors can identify Beavis and Butt-head than can describe James Madison's role in framing the Constitution. But it's disconcerting nevertheless.

A test to measure the teaching of American history was given to seniors at 55 top colleges and universities, including Harvard and Princeton. Administered by the Center for Survey Research and Analysis at the University of Connecticut, the 34-question test revealed a depressing dearth of knowledge about the United States. Nearly 80 percent of this country's best and brightest got a D or an F. More than a third of the students didn't know, for example, that the Constitution established the division of powers in American government.

Thomas Jefferson, who understood better than most that democracy depends on an educated public, must be tossing in his grave. Those who have knowledge about the nation's past are more likely to be invested in its future and to participate in its democratic processes. Sen. Joseph I. Lieberman quoted the sage of Monticello as saying, "If a nation expects to be ignorant and free, it expects that never was and never will be." The United States seems "well on its way to testing this proposition," Mr. Lieberman said.

Across the years, students have always been more familiar with the popular culture of their own era than with history. But perhaps never during the life of the Republic have so many known so little about the past.

One of the reasons is the weakening of curricula. The UConn study found that none of the 55 colleges taking part in the survey require American history for graduation. Only 78 percent of the schools require students to take any history classes. Course catalogs are filled with too much politically correct drivel.

Mr. Lieberman is part of a bipartisan group in Congress that has introduced resolutions in the Senate and House calling on boards of trustees, college administrators and state education officials to strengthen American history requirements at all levels of the educational system. Ordinarily politicians should keep their hands off curricula, but somebody has to speak up about the sorry state of history instruction today.

[From the Chicago Sun-Times, July 4, 2000]

UNHAPPY COURSE OF HUMAN EVENTS

Today is Independence Day, the day we observe the July 4, 1776, signing of the Declaration of Independence. Oh, for you college kids out there? That's . . . independence . . . from . . . England.

We feel compelled to make that clear after reading the other day about a recent history quiz given to seniors at 55 top universities and colleges. The results of the 34-question American history test—high school level, at that—revealed that nearly 80 percent of the students received a D or an F.

The sorry showing revealed that college students—our, gulp, future leaders—are rather illiterate, history-wise. Beavis and Butt-head? Ninety-nine percent knew those cartoon miscreants. James Madison? The "Father of the Constitution" was accurately identified by only 23 percent.

The survey was commissioned by the American Council of Trustees and Alumni, which used it to bemoan the back seat that history courses have taken in many of the nation's universities. "Students are allowed to graduate as if they didn't know the past existed," said one of the study's authors. That is a damning indictment of the nation's colleges and schools. Surely, one of the functions of education is to pass on the responsibilities of citizenship. Too many kids leave high school unable to read; now we have evidence that too many leave college unable to answer the most fundamental of history questions.

Those who do not remember the past are doomed to repeat it, was the warning of philosopher George Santayana. But we don't have to wait long to see the consequences of being disconnected from our history. Every election it becomes more and more apparent as voter turnout declines. Too many Americans have forgotten—or never learned about—the blood, sweat and tears that have been shed in the past for the freedoms we enjoy—and take for granted—in the 21st century. Young people have a particularly disappointing level of non-involvement at the ballot box. They are ignorant of this country's tradition of representative democracy, its record of expanding liberty and the duty of responsible adults to participate in our republic's political life.

Is it any wonder so many young people see no relevance in politics?

[From the Detroit News, July 2, 2000]

BEAVIS MEETS "THE PATRIOT"

The new Mel Gibson movie, *The Patriot*, a historical epic about the American Revolution, opened on this most patriotic of weekends to generally upbeat reviews. If the results of a recent survey are considered, however, one wonders where its audience may be.

The survey indicated that 80 percent of college seniors, tested at some of this nation's most prestigious schools, could not pass a very basic quiz on American history.

Only 23 percent, for example, correctly identified James Madison as the principal framer of the U.S. Constitution. However, 99 percent knew who Beavis and Butt-head were. So they certainly wouldn't be expected to know much about how the War for Independence was conducted in South Carolina 220 years ago.

The survey results are hardly a surprise, given the way that history has been watered down, politically cleansed or eradicated for an entire generation of students. The universities chosen for the study were, in fact, selected on the basis of not requiring any American history course for graduation.

The English critics, who tend to take history a good deal more seriously, have complained that Mr. Gibson's film is perfectly beastly to the Brits. And in fact the Revolution, for all its glorification in American folklore, was a nasty, vicious war on both sides. It wasn't pretty, but it's a real part of U.S. history.

Mr. Gibson is, or course, a major star who turned *Braveheart*, a film about the 13th-century struggle of Scots under William Wallace to be free of English rule, into a box office success. One of its big scenes featured the hero's soldiers baring their backsides in a gesture of defiance.

Not much of that went on in the Revolutionary War. If it had, Mr. Gibson may have found a way to bring in the Beavis and Butt-head crowd.

[From Newsday (New York, NY), July 4, 2000]

LIFE, LIBERTY AND PURSUIT OF BARBECUE

(By James P. Pinkerton)

July 4 was once known as Independence Day, but now it's simply "The Fourth of July." The sense of history that once motivated parades and patriotic displays is gone, maybe forever.

So today those who know that the Fourth commemorates the 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence, who risked all for "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness," are joined by those who see the holiday as an opportunity for barbecue, fireworks and party-hearting. And, although there is nothing wrong with revelry, remembrance is even better.

A new survey of 556 college seniors conducted by the American Council of Trustees and Alumni finds that, while 99 percent can correctly identify the cartoon characters Beavis and Butt-head, only 45 percent know even vaguely when Thomas Jefferson, principal author of the Declaration, served as president.

And, while 98 percent can identify the rapper Snoop Doggy Dog, only 34 percent know that George Washington was the commander at the Battle of Yorktown, which settled the question of American independence.

To be sure, there's often an element of snobbery in polls that show Americans don't know much about history. No doubt many of the heroes of Yorktown, Gettysburg or the Battle of the Bulge had little or no formal education (although surviving veterans of that last Nazi offensive in late 1944 might be dismayed to know that just 37 percent of college seniors recognize the Battle of the Bulge took place during World War II).

But this poll was different: It wasn't directed toward ordinary students but rather toward students at 55 leading liberal-arts colleges, including Harvard and Princeton.

George Santayana, an Ivy Leaguer, once wrote that "those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." But just the opposite can be argued, too: Those who don't remember the past are doomed, or perhaps destined, never to repeat it.

It's possible that the United States has reached such a high plateau of economic

prosperity and technologically based military superiority that the old values of heroism and sacrifice are no longer deemed necessary.

As evidence, consider the most useful look at the state of the union in print today: a new book, "Bobos in Paradise: The New Upper Class and How They Got There," by David Brooks. Bobos—a neologism combining "bourgeois" and "bohemian"—are defined as "the new information-age elite" for whom "self-cultivation is the imperative, with the emphasis on self."

So much, then, for the dying words—"I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country"—of Revolutionary patriot Nathan Hale (whom just 40 percent of the college seniors could identify).

Freely identifying himself as a Bobo, Brooks writes, "We're not so bad. All societies have elites, and our educated elite is a lot more enlightened than some of the older elites, which were based on blood or wealth or military valor."

It would be easy to dismiss Bobos as selfish hedonists with no larger interests beyond themselves, but that wouldn't tell the whole story.

It's more accurate to assert that the Bobos, and all other less-well-off Americans who follow their politico-cultural leadership, are developing loyalties to newer ideas and institutions that seem more relevant to them than the American heritage.

For example, while the Stars and Stripes are as scarce as chewing tobacco in Bobo neighborhoods, it's easy to find environmentally-themed bumper strips, window decals, even flags and banners. Similarly, other cultural and political beliefs—from abortion rights to gay rights to gun control—are visibly represented in Bobo enclaves.

If patriotism can be defined as loyalty to the group, then Bobos are patriotic in their own fashion. Their loyalties are tilted away from the nation-state and toward new categories that often transcend national boundaries.

But even Brooks, bard of the Bobos, worries that Americans have drifted away from patriotic moorings.

"The Bobo task," he writes, "is to rebuild some sense of a united polity, some sense of national cohesion."

That's what "Independence Day" was once all about.

But today "interdependence" seems to many to be a more useful concept. If so, then maybe history, with all its bloody memories, really can be a thing of the past.

But, if not, the Bobos of today will have a hard time summoning up old-fashioned patriotism out of the fog of forgetfulness.

[From the Roanoke Times & World News, July 3, 2000]

DON'T LET AMERICA'S HISTORY FADE AWAY

Suppose you had to pass a pop quiz on America's history before you could eat a hot dog or take in a fireworks display tomorrow in celebration of the nation's founding. Could you?

Or are you in the category with about 80 percent of seniors at some of the nation's top colleges and universities who—according to a survey released last week by the University of Connecticut—are more familiar with America's bad boys Beavis and Butt-head than with America's Founding Fathers and the principles that guided them?

If the answer to the last question is "yes," perhaps you should skip the hot dogs and fireworks and instead attend one of the many naturalization ceremonies that will be held tomorrow for immigrants to become American citizens.

Those immigrants must pass a test about U.S. history and government, and often, say

some officials of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, they are more knowledgeable on the subjects than many folks born, bred and educated in the USA.

OK, pretend the game isn't "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire" but "Who Wants to Be an American?" Pretend the stakes are—more valuable than money—the freedoms and privileges that most Americans consider their birthright. Could you, as immigrants must, correctly answer such questions as:

Why did the Pilgrims come to America? Name the 13 original states. What did the Emancipation Proclamation do? How many amendments are there to the Constitution? Why are there 100 members of the U.S. Senate? Who has the power to declare war? Who was Martin Luther King Jr.? Who is the commander in chief of the U.S. military? Which countries were our enemies during World War II? What are the two major political parties in America today? Who selects Supreme Court justices? What is the basic premise of the Declaration of Independence?

Granted, many immigrants participating in naturalization ceremonies tomorrow might think Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. (rather than Abraham Lincoln) freed the slaves. But few would confuse Jerry Springer with Patrick Henry, and almost all would know that the basic premise of the Declaration of Independence is that "all Men are created equal" and "are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights."

Any American born-and-bred college senior who doesn't know that should be flogged around the ears and jowls with a raw wiener.

[From the Ledger (Lakeland, FL), July 2, 2000]

GIVE ME LIBERTY OR GIVE ME . . . BEAVIS?; OPINION

(By Thomas Roe Oldt)

They say the kiddies don't know much about history. And we're not talking little kiddies, either. We're talking college seniors from the nation's allegedly top universities.

"They" are the Center for Survey Research and Analysis at the University of Connecticut, which recently conducted a review of what those seniors know about American history.

Turns out, not much. Given a 34-question multiple-guess high school exam on the subject, 80 percent received a D or F.

More than a quarter couldn't pick the leader of the Abolitionist Movement when given a choice among four people, three of whom weren't even alive prior to the Civil War.

Defining "Abolitionist" doubtless would have been a problem, but the kiddies were saved the embarrassment of being subjected to an exam even moderately comprehensive.

When asked to select the time frame of the Civil War in 50-year increments from 1750 to 1950 and beyond, 40 percent were stymied.

When it came to Supreme Court Justice John Marshall, 67 percent couldn't pick him as the author of *Marbury v. Madison*. The other choices included two 20th century picks, *Roe v. Wade* and *Brown v. Board of Education*.

Asked under whose administration the Korean War began, 65 percent thought it was someone other than Harry Truman.

The source of the phrase "Government of the people, by the people, for the people" was misidentified by 78 percent of respondents.

Only 26 percent knew that the Emancipation Proclamation freed slaves only in areas of the Confederacy not held by the Union. Reconstruction was believed by all but 29 percent to refer to something other than readmission of the Confederate states and protection of the rights of former slaves. Almost 60 percent thought it referred to repairing physical damage caused by the Civil War.

While 72 percent knew that Joseph Stalin was leader of the Soviet Union when the United States entered World War II, some picked Peter Ustinov, the actor. Too bad for the millions who died under Stalin, a very bad actor, that Ustinov wasn't head honcho. Thomas Jefferson was thought by 53 percent to be "Father of the Constitution" and 23 percent believed John F. Kennedy uttered the words, "I regret that I have only one life to give for my country."

Thirteen percent identified Sitting Bull as the phrase-maker who came up with "Speak softly but carry a big stick."

Basic cultural stuff, all in all.

But take heart! Speaking of base culture, all but 2 percent could identify Beavis, Butt-head and Snoop Doggy Dog. It's a good thing Our Future Leaders weren't asking about world history. If the Magna Carta posed problems for them—only 56 percent got it right—imagine what the Hundred Years War would do?

So as an Independence Day weekend public service exercise, here is a simple quasi-world history exam sent in by a friend. Try this out on your college senior.

1. How long did the Hundred Years War last?
2. Which country makes Panama hats?
3. Where do we get catgut?
4. In which month do Russians celebrate the October Revolution?
5. What is a camel's hair brush made of?
6. The Canary Islands are named after what animal?
7. What was King George VI's first name?
8. What color is a purple finch?
9. What country do Chinese gooseberries come from?
10. How long did the Thirty Years War last?

While it's highly tempting to stretch this out over two columns in order to fill the greatest possible space with the least imaginable effort, it doesn't seem fair. So here are the answers?

1. 116 years, from 1337 to 1453.
2. Ecuador.
3. From sheep and horses.
4. November, since the Russian calendar was 13 days behind ours in 1917.
5. Squirrel fur.
6. The Latin name was *Insularia Canaria*, "Island of the Dogs."
7. Albert.
8. Distinctively crimson.
9. New Zealand.
10. At last! Thirty years, from 1618 to 1648.

On the advice of counsel, there will be no disclosure as the columnist's grade. Suffice it to say that the American history exam offered much less resistance.

Thomas Roe Oldt is a Winter Haven-based columnist for *The Ledger*. His opinion column appears on Sunday.

[From the Times-Picayune, July 4, 2000]

STUDENTS SHOULD AT LEAST KNOW GEORGE

(By James Gill)

"The Patriot" is released at the same time as the latest survey to conclude that young Americans don't know squat.

What they are ignorant of on this occasion is American history, "they" being seniors at such tony schools as Harvard, Princeton and Brown. If they catch the flick, they may learn a thing or two about the Revolutionary War, which appears to be a closed book right now.

If your kid's an Ivy League hot shot who hasn't yet seen "The Patriot," please do not spoil it by revealing how that war turned out. Since Mel Gibson is the star, they will probably have their money on Australia.

Ok, let us not exaggerate, for it is not necessary. The American Council of Trustees

and Alumni asked 556 students 34 easy questions. Although multiple choice made them even easier, only one kid got them all right, and the average score was 53 percent.

But the students are not so savvy as the numbers suggest. Two of the questions were gimmies, with only 1 percent failing to identify Beavis and Butthead as television cartoon characters and 2 percent laboring under the misapprehension that Snoop Doggy Dog was either a Charles Schultz cartoon, a mystery series or a jazz pianist.

Some of the answers suggested to serious questions, moreover, were too outlandish for consideration. Anyone not knowing who was leader of the Soviet Union at the outbreak of World War II, for instance, should not have had much trouble ruling out the English actor Peter Ustinov or the late Yugoslavian premier Marshal Tito. The fourth option was Khrushchev. The students did better on that question than on most, with 72 percent plumping for Stalin.

For 32 of the questions, four possible answers were suggested—five for each of the other two. A troglodyte asked to complete the survey might therefore expect to score close to 25 percent with the aid of a pin.

If the survey is to be trusted, the most privileged and educated of American kids are worth two troglodytes. Perhaps it is best if we do not know what the ratio is in Louisiana public colleges.

Today's students have such a shaky grasp of the revolutionary era that even George Washington is quite a mystery to them. Only 34 percent identified him as the American general at Yorktown, and 42 percent as being "first in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of his countrymen."

One suspects that these kids must have been in puckish mood, deliberately giving wrong answers. It is hard to believe, for instance, that anyone could get through grade school without knowing that Patrick Henry said, "Give me liberty or give me death." Yet there we have 34 percent of college seniors who purportedly do not know.

It is not that these kids have anything against the revolution. They are just as ill-informed about everything else.

A stock question in these surveys seems to be when the Civil War took place. Not precisely, of course, but within 50 years. The results are always shocking. This time there were five answers to choose from, starting with 1750-1800 and ending with the half-century now about to conclude. A pathetic 60 percent nailed it.

Applicants for American citizenship have to know more than plenty of these guys. A standard question for immigrants, for instance, is what the Emancipation Proclamation was all about, and there is no multiple choice. Of the students in this survey, 26 percent chose the right answer. Only 52 percent knew that the division of powers between the states and the federal government is spelled out in the Constitution.

Ask about anything—the Federalist Papers, Alexis de Tocqueville, the Scopes trial, the Monroe Doctrine—and a profound ignorance is revealed. Let us hope that Henry Ford was right when he said, "History is more or less bunk," and George Santayana was wrong when he said, "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it."

Unfortunately, one suspects that Ford was about as good at philosophy as Santayana was at making cars.

While college seniors appear to be lacking in intellectual curiosity, today's sixth-graders, The New York Times reports, are under such pressure to excel in school that they study constantly and may "suffer tension headaches and bouts of anxiety."

Maybe everyone should make time to go see a movie.

[From The Reporter, July 2, 2000]

HISTORY 101: AMERICANS FLUNK WHEN IT COMES TO U.S. KNOWLEDGE

(By Amy Baumhardt)

If the words, "Give me liberty or give me death," sound only vaguely familiar, you apparently have plenty of company.

According to a recent survey, nearly 80 percent of seniors at 55 top colleges and universities—including Harvard and Princeton—received a D or F on a 34 question, high school level American history test. Yet, 98 percent were able to recognize the music of recording artist Snoop Doggy Dogg and 99 percent could identify cartoon characters Beavis and Butthead.

How is this possible? Sixth District Rep. Thomas Petri, R—Fond du Lac, is asking the same question.

Petri has joined with U.S. Sen. Joseph I. Lieberman, D-Conn., to announce the introduction of a resolution expressing "the importance and value of United States history" and calling on boards of trustees, college administrators and state officials to strengthen American history requirements.

On June 27, the Petri-Lieberman bill was introduced, urging colleges to take seriously the need to teach American history.

Petri said, "As we prepare to celebrate the Fourth of July, it is particularly appropriate to emphasize our need to know U.S. history."

He added, "A basic knowledge of United States history is essential to a full and informed participation in civic life. It is also the one bond that brings together our diverse peoples into a single nation with a common purpose."

Petri feels that "when we lose our civic memory, when we lose our understanding of the remarkable individuals, events and values that have shaped our experiment in self-government, we are losing much of what it means to be an American."

Local high school history teachers and college professors agree, to a point.

The consensus seems to be that history is obviously important. However, today's teachers are placing less of an emphasis on specific dates and times and more concentration on the overall impact history has on the lives of Americans.

"In my classroom, I teach my students historical concepts," said Lisa Steinacker, history teacher at Goodrich High School. "I think it gives kids a better understanding of why things are the way they are today."

At Ripon college, Professor Russell Blake shares the same philosophy.

"There needs to be an assurance that all citizens have some understanding of American history. However, I am not so much concerned that the students know exact dates but that they learn how to acquire historical knowledge."

Acquiring the knowledge doesn't seem to be a problem in the Fond du Lac area, especially on the high school level.

Steinacker was pleased to announce that history was the highest scoring subject on standardized tests for Fond du Lac students.

"I think that speaks highly for the K-12 curriculum in this area," she said.

Blake has no complaints on the college-end either.

"I think as a teacher, I will always have the wish that students would know more, but I have been a professor at Ripon since 1981 and have seen no decline in my students' performances," he said.

Perhaps Petri is correct in assuming the problems lies in the fact that many students, once they reach the college level, are no longer required to take U.S. history courses.

At present, students can graduate from 100 percent of the top colleges and universities in the nation without taking a single course

in U.S. history. At 78 percent of the institutions, students are not required to take any history at all.

"The focus always seems to be on math and science," said Steinacker. "An understanding of history is important to be a well-rounded individual."

With the Fourth of July, the day of American independence, fast approaching, the need for historical understanding seems relevant to fully appreciate the holiday. Most of us enjoy a holiday on the Fourth, but do we know why?

Here's a quick history lesson:

Independence Day is the national holiday of the United States of America, commemorating this nation's split from England and the beginning of self government.

U.S. colonists were angered with King George III, due to England's "taxation without representation" policy. When nothing was done to change the situation, colonists took matters into their own hands.

In June 1776, a committee was formed to compose a formal declaration of independence. Headed by Thomas Jefferson, the committee included John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Philip Livingston and Roger Sherman.

Together the men created the document that Americans still cherish and abide by today . . . the Declaration of Independence. The Continental Congress approved this document on July 4, 1776.

American history helps to define the nation's culture. It is not possible to bury the past if we hope to have a prosperous future.

Like Goodrich teacher Mike Dressler said last week. "The purpose of learning about history is so we don't repeat it."

EDUCATION: WHO'S BURIED IN GRANT'S TOMB?

(A) BEAVIS AND BUTTHEAD, (B) LEE, (C) GRANT, (D) BRAINS OF TODAY'S COLLEGIANS

Like other Americans, many of this year's graduating seniors from the nation's top colleges and universities celebrated Independence Day with fireworks and barbecues. But according to a recent survey sponsored by the American Council of Trustees and Alumni, a Washington-based non-profit organization that promotes academic excellence in higher education, those graduates would have better spent the day learning what the Fourth of July means in history.

In the survey, the Roper organization last fall asked 556 seniors at the 55 highest-rated colleges and universities to complete a test on 34 high-school-level questions about American history. What do they know about their own country's past? Not much. Only one-third of the students could correctly answer more than 60 percent of the questions, even with a couple of pop-culture gimmies thrown in; just one correctly answered all of them. Overall, the average score was an appalling 53 percent.

How badly ignorant are the nation's young best and brightest about American history? Match yourself against the elite from Stanford, UC-Berkeley, UCLA, Harvard and other top colleges by taking the same test. Find out who are the real Yankee Doodle Dandies.

1. When was the Civil War?

- a. 1750-1800
- b. 1800-1850
- c. 1850-1900
- d. 1900-1950
- e. after 1950

2. Who said "Give me liberty or give me death"?

- a. John Hancock
- b. James Madison
- c. Patrick Henry
- d. Samuel Adams

3. What is the Magna Carta?

- a. The foundation of the British parliamentary system

- b. The Great Seal of the monarchs of England
 - c. The French Declaration of the Rights of Man
 - d. The charter signed by the Pilgrims on the Mayflower
4. The term Reconstruction refers to:
- a. Payment of European countries' debts to the United States after the First World War
 - b. Repairing of the physical damage caused by the Civil War
 - c. Readmission of the Confederate states and the protection of the rights of black citizens
 - d. Rebuilding of the transcontinental railroad and the canal system
5. Are Beavis and Butthead . . .
- a. A radio show
 - b. Television cartoon characters
 - c. A musical group
 - d. Fictional soldiers
6. The Scopes trial was about:
- a. Freedom of the press
 - b. Teaching evolution in the schools
 - c. Prayer in the schools
 - d. Education in private schools
7. The Emancipation Proclamation issued by Lincoln stated that:
- a. Slaves were free in areas of the Confederate states not held by the Union
 - b. The slave trade was illegal
 - c. Slaves who fled to Canada would be protected
 - d. Slavery was abolished in the Union
8. The purpose of the authors of the Federalist Papers was to:
- a. Establish a strong, free press in the colonies
 - b. Confirm George Washington's election as the first president
 - c. Win foreign approval for the Revolutionary War
 - d. Gain ratification of the U.S. Constitution
9. Sputnik was the name given to the first:
- a. Telecommunications system
 - b. Animal to travel into space
 - c. Hydrogen bomb
 - d. Man-made satellite.
10. The Missouri Compromise was the act that:
- a. Funded the Lewis and Clark expedition on the upper Missouri River
 - b. Granted statehood to Missouri but denied the admission of any other states
 - c. Settled the boundary dispute between Missouri and Kansas
 - d. Admitted Maine into the Union as a free state and Missouri as a slave state
11. Which document established the division of powers between the states and the federal government?
- a. The Marshall Plan
 - b. The Constitution
 - c. The Declaration of Independence
 - d. The Articles of Confederation
12. When was Thomas Jefferson president?
- a. 1780-1800
 - b. 1800-1820
 - c. 1820-1840
 - d. 1840-1860
 - e. 1860-1880
13. What was the lowest point in American fortunes in the Revolutionary War?
- a. Saratoga
 - b. Bunker Hill
 - c. Valley Forge
 - d. Fort Ticonderoga
14. In his farewell address, President George Washington warned against the danger of:
- a. Expanding into territories beyond the Appalachian Mountains
 - b. Having war with Spain over Mexico
 - c. Entering into permanent alliances with foreign governments
 - d. Building a standing army and strong navy
15. The Monroe Doctrine declared that:
- a. The American blockade of Cuba was in accord with international law
 - b. Europe should not acquire new territories in Western Hemisphere
 - c. Trade with China should be open to all Western nations
 - d. The annexation of the Philippines was legitimate
16. Who was the European who traveled in the United States and wrote down perceptive comments about what he saw in "Democracy in America"?
- a. Lafayette
 - b. Tocqueville
 - c. Crevecoeur
 - d. Napoleon
17. Identify Snoop Doggy Dog.
- a. A rap singer
 - b. Cartoon by Charles Schultz
 - c. A mystery series
 - d. A jazz pianist
18. Abraham Lincoln was president between:
- a. 1780-1800
 - b. 1800-1820
 - c. 1820-1840
 - d. 1840-1860
 - e. 1860-1880
19. Who was the American general at Yorktown?
- a. William T. Sherman
 - b. Ulysses S. Grant
 - c. Douglas McArthur
 - d. George Washington
20. John Marshall was the author of:
- a. Roe v. Wade
 - b. Dred Scott v. Kansas
 - c. Marbury v. Madison
 - d. Brown v. Board of Education
21. Who was the "Father of the Constitution"?
- a. George Washington
 - b. Thomas Jefferson
 - c. Benjamin Franklin
 - d. James Madison
22. Who said, "I regret that I have only one life to give for my country"?
- a. John F. Kennedy
 - b. Benedict Arnold
 - c. John Brown
 - d. Nathan Hale
23. What was the source of the following phrase: "Government of the people, by the people, for the people"?
- a. The speech: "I have a Dream"
 - b. Declaration of Independence
 - c. U.S. Constitution
 - d. Gettysburg Address
24. Who was the second president of the U.S.?
- a. Thomas Jefferson
 - b. James Madison
 - c. John Adams
 - d. Benjamin Franklin
25. Who was president when the U.S. purchased the Panama Canal?
- a. Theodore Roosevelt
 - b. Jimmy Carter
 - c. Franklin D. Roosevelt
 - d. Woodrow Wilson
26. Who was the leading advocate for the U.S. entry into the League of Nations?
- a. George C. Marshall
 - b. Woodrow Wilson
 - c. Henry Cabot Lodge
 - d. Eleanor Roosevelt
27. Who said, "Speak softly but carry a big stick"?
- a. William T. Sherman
 - b. Sitting Bull
 - c. John D. Rockefeller
 - d. Theodore Roosevelt
28. The Battle of the Bulge occurred during:
- a. The Vietnam War
 - b. World War II
 - c. World War I
 - d. The Civil War
29. Which of the following was a prominent leader of the Abolitionist Movement?
- a. Malcolm X
 - b. Martin Luther King Jr.
 - c. W.E.B. Du Bois
 - d. Frederick Douglas
30. Who was the president of the United States at the beginning of the Korean War?
- a. John F. Kennedy
 - b. Franklin D. Roosevelt
 - c. Dwight Eisenhower
 - d. Harry Truman
31. When the United States entered World War II, which two major nations were allied with Germany?
- a. Italy and Japan
 - b. Italy and Poland
 - c. Italy and Russia
 - d. Russia and Japan
32. Social legislation passed under President Lyndon B. Johnson's Great Society program included:
- a. The Sherman Antitrust Act
 - b. The Voting Rights Act
 - c. The Tennessee Valley Authority
 - d. The Civilian Conservation Corps
33. Who was "First in war, first in peace, first in the hearts of his countrymen?"
- a. George Washington
 - b. Woodrow Wilson
 - c. Dwight Eisenhower
 - d. Abraham Lincoln
34. Who was the leader of the Soviet Union when the United States entered World War II?
- a. Peter Ustinov
 - b. Nikita Khrushchev
 - c. Marshal Tito
 - d. Joseph Stalin

The answers, along with the percentage of respondents who answered correctly:

1. C/60; 2. C/66; 3. A/56; 4. C/29; 5. B/99; 6. B/61; 7. A/26; 8. D/53; 9. D/89; 10. D/52; 11. B/60; 12. B/45; 13. C/38; 14. C/52; 15. B/62; 16. B/49; 17. A/98; 18. E/44; 19. D/34; 20. C/33; 21. D/23; 22. D/40; 23. D/22; 24. C/73; 25. A/53; 26. B/69; 27. D/70; 28. B/37; 29. D/73; 30. D/35; 31. A/67; 32. B/30; 33. A/42; 34. D/72.

WE IGNORE HISTORY AT OUR OWN PERIL

Is it really surprising that 99 percent of college students can identify "Beavis and Butthead" as television cartoon characters but fail to identify key figures and concepts in American history?

The only eye-raising revelation in the study by the Center for Survey Research and Analysis at the University of Connecticut was that the students surveyed were seniors at the nation's top 55 top colleges and universities, including Harvard and Princeton.

Nearly 80 percent of the students received a D or F on a 34-question, high school level American history test. They had trouble identifying Valley Forge, words from the Gettysburg Address or the basic principles of the U.S. Constitution.

During this Independence Day weekend, this apparent ignorance takes on a greater significance as we ponder the words of Thomas Jefferson.

No. Not because Jefferson's DNA is being analyzed on Court TV over that nasty paternity battle. He was the principal author of the Declaration of Independence. Remember, "We the people . . ."

Naw. That guy Adams came up with the "We the people . . ." slogan. "We the people . . . in order to brew a tastier beer." That's Samuel Adams. We are talking about James Madison, the president and lead author of the Constitution and Bill of Rights.

Rep. Tom Petri, R-Fond du Lac, was among the four members of Congress last week that promises to introduce a resolution calling on boards of trustees, college administrators and state officials to strengthen American history requirements in all levels of the educational system.

A high percentage of colleges and universities don't require a single U.S. history class for graduation—lending an unusual understanding to the phrase “higher education.” Even so, high school graduates should not get a degree unless they know the basics of American history.

“As we prepare to celebrate the Fourth of July, it is particularly appropriate to emphasize our need to know U.S. history,” Petri said. “Without that familiarity, we lack an understanding and appreciation of the democratic principles which define and sustain us as a free people—namely liberty, justice, tolerance, government by the consent of the governed, and equality under the law.”

Although the most a Congressional resolution can do is raise awareness, we were glad to see Petri help bring this troubling information to light.

Is it any wonder that we cannot get people to vote or involved in civic life?

We are not teaching our children why it is so absolutely important.

The final thought: Americans should be ashamed that so many young people are ignorant about U.S. history.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of Senate Concurrent Resolution 129, and I want to thank the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. PETRI) for bringing this to the floor.

We frequently hear concerns regarding the adequacy of education our children are receiving in the areas of math, science, and technology. Indeed, our committee, Congress, and the community as a whole currently focuses a great deal of attention on improving programs aimed at increasing the literacy of students in these subjects. We should, of course, continue to pursue excellence in the areas of math, science and technology, if we intend for the United States to remain a world leader in the increasingly competitive global economy.

However, is it not just as important that our citizens understand and appreciate the history of this great Nation, the democratic principles that define and sustain this Nation, such as liberty, justice, tolerance and equality under the law? For in the words of the third President of the United States, Thomas Jefferson, “If a Nation expects to be ignorant and free, it expects what never was and never will be.”

However, as my colleague, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. PETRI), has already stated, according to a recent study commissioned by the American Council of Trustees and Alumni, knowledge of American history in today's students is sorely lacking.

According to this study, which surveyed students from the top colleges and universities of this Nation, less than 20 percent of today's students

could pass a high school level American history exam. Barely half possess the basic knowledge about American democracy and the Constitution.

We are not talking here about very difficult subjects, but we are talking about the great history of this country, the great history of the documents and theories of government that govern this Nation. We are talking about the roles of Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, George Washington, about the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence. These are basic fundamental tenets of this Nation. They are also basic and fundamental tenets that so many other nations aspire to, and yet we find out that knowledge of these documents and of this Nation's history is sorely lacking.

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The purpose of this resolution is to call attention to that problem and to try and get people to understand the need to pursue the knowledge of history in this country and the history of this Nation to better serve the Nation as we govern it.

I would like to thank the involvement of John Patrick Diggins, one of my former professors, at that time at San Francisco State who is now at the State University in New York, and I want to thank again my colleague, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. PETRI) and Senator LIEBERMAN and Senator GORTON for introducing this legislation in the Senate, and I would hope that all of my colleagues would support it.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PETRI. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time.

Mr. SKEEN. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the House for the expedited consideration of Senate Concurrent Resolution 129, Expressing the sense of Congress regarding the importance and value of education in United States history. In the House of Representatives I had the honor of cosponsoring, along with four other members of Congress, Congressman PETRI's House Concurrent Resolution 366, our companion resolution.

In many ways this resolution could be one of the most important legislative efforts this Congress makes this year. What we are asking is for America's colleges and universities to review their curricula and add requirements in United States history. Many of us were shocked to find out that 100 percent of the nation's top institutions of higher learning no longer require United States history as a prerequisite to graduate. Almost as shocking is the 78 percent of schools that have eliminated any history requirements.

Related to this news was the fact that the Roper organization conducted a study of students from these institutions and found a shocking level of history illiteracy. In fact many could not answer history questions that are found on 8th grade tests. This is not good news for our nation. Our next generations deserve more guidance from us and that what this resolution calls for.

Our citizens, to fully participate in our government and in our civilization need to under-

stand where this nation has been. They need to know the sacrifices our parents and grandparents made for our democracy. They need to be able to fully celebrate the historical successes we have had and they also need the knowledge to beware of the mistakes we have made as a nation. Many will say that history is cyclical. We still have much to learn as individuals and even more to learn as a nation. History education can teach us much. It will provide us with the information we need to pass on to the future generations. It will provide the road map for a great future. I am extremely proud to be a cosponsor of this important resolution.

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, this great country has an incredibly rich history. From the great Native American civilizations to the current era of global engagement, American history describes an incredible, sometimes turbulent journey toward the greatest democracy in the world. If the statistics cited in this bill are accurate, it is a shame so many of our college graduates know so little about that history.

I am proud to sit on the subcommittee on Higher Education, particularly since six universities are located in my district. It is important that we promote U.S. history in our colleges and universities to ensure that our future generations know we developed as a society and a culture. For example, the Constitution embodies our most cherished beliefs of democracy, liberty, justice, and equality. The fact that scarcely half of the college students recently tested knew even general information about the principles and institutions that make up the backbone of our country is sadly unacceptable. We cannot afford to have our colleges graduate historically illiterate citizens.

I admit I have a personal passion for history, and for me I benefit from working in Washington and city's close proximity to so many historical treasures. In particular I truly enjoy visiting the sites of the Civil War to pay homage to the men and women. Such opportunities have allowed me to actually experience parts of our history, and the excitement and interest of these places are only enhanced by reading about them and studying them beforehand.

I am also a student of European history, in particular, the history of 20th Century Europe. In this information age and new economy I would like to point out to college students that world history also remains important to their education. Learning the history of other cultures will greatly prepare them for their future in this rapidly changing world.

Improvement of education remains one of my top priorities in Congress. Therefore, I support this bill in order to encourage our college students to learn the history of their nation; a history that laid the foundation for their current and future opportunities.

Ms. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. Con. Res. 129, which recognizes the importance of education in U.S. History. Last week, we celebrated the 224th birthday of the United States. Within this historic context, this resolution is particularly fitting because throughout American history, education has enabled Americans to embrace opportunity.

For African-Americans, literacy was key to ending the bondage of slavery. For Americans of every background, education has been the key to escaping poverty. For this reason, we in Congress bear significant responsibility for

increasing support to educational programs, such as Head Start, Title I, Pell Grants and other aid to college students, particularly students who are the first in their families to attend college. We know that disadvantaged students are more likely to drop out of high school and college without completing a degree. Yet, most jobs that pay a living wage now require knowledge of technology and training beyond high school. It is our responsibility as a wealthy nation to provide students with the support needed to graduate, join the economic mainstream and contribute to our national success story.

Moreover, in our current consideration of welfare reform, we have seen that targeted education and training can provide a leg up for working poor families to raise earnings and escape poverty. In the Eleventh Congressional District of Ohio, Cuyahoga Community College has done an excellent job of reaching out to adults in transition, and in preparing high school students for careers in technology. Around the country, community colleges enable disadvantaged people to realize their own potential and prepare to move into the economic mainstream.

The last seven years of prosperity we have enjoyed have not benefited everyone in our society. Education and training are the keys that will fling wide the portals of opportunity. America was founded on the principles of "Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness." I salute our American history, and the key role of education to ensure opportunity for all.

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, I rise to address two shortcomings of S. Con. Res. 129. I am certainly in agreement with the sentiments behind this resolution. The promotion of knowledge about, and understanding of, American history are among the most important activities those who wish to preserve American liberty can undertake. In fact, I would venture to say that with my work with various educational organizations, I have done as much, if not more, than any other member of Congress to promote the study of American history.

Unfortunately, while I strongly support efforts to increase the American public's knowledge of history, I cannot support a resolution claiming to encourage Americans to embrace their constitutional heritage, while its very language showcases a fundamental misunderstanding of the beliefs of America's founders and the drafters of the United States Constitution. Popular acceptance of this misunderstanding of the founders' thought is much more dangerous to American liberty than an inability to name the exact date of the Battle at Bunker Hill.

In particular, the resolution refers to American "democracy" and the "democratic" principles upon which this country was founded. However, this country was founded not as a democracy but as a constitutional republic. Madam Speaker, the distinction between a democracy and a republic is more than just a matter of semantics. The fundamental principle in a democracy is majority rule. Democracies, unlike republics, do not recognize fundamental rights of citizens (outside the right to vote) nor do they limit the power of the government. Indeed, such limitations are often scored as "intrusions on the will of the majority." Thus in a democracy, the majority, or their elected representatives, can limit an individual's right to free speech, defend oneself,

form contracts, or even raise ones' children. Democracies recognize only one fundamental right: the right to participate in the choosing of their rulers at a pre-determined time.

In contrast, in a republic, the role of government is strictly limited to a few well-defined functions and the fundamental rights of individuals are respected. A constitution limiting the authority of central government and a Bill of Rights expressly forbidding the federal government from abridging the fundamental rights of a people are features of a republican form of government. Even a cursory reading of the Federalist Papers and other works of the founders shows they understood that obtaining the consent of 51 percent of the people does not in any way legitimize government actions abridging individual liberty.

Madam Speaker, the confusion over whether America is a democracy, where citizens' rights may be violated if the consent of 51 percent of the people may be obtained, or a republic, where the federal government is forbidden to take any actions violating a people's fundamental rights, is behind many of the flawed debates in this Congress. A constitutionally literate Congress that understands the proper function of a legislature in a constitutional republic would never even debate whether or not to abridge the right of self-defense, instruct parents how to raise and educate their children, send troops to intervene in distant foreign quarrels that do not involve the security of the country, or even deny entire classes of citizens the fundamental right to life.

Secondly, it is not the proper role of the United States Congress to dictate educational tenets to states and local governments. After all, the United States Constitution does not give the federal government any power to dictate, or even suggest, curriculum. Instead the power to determine what is taught in schools is reserved to states, local communities, and, above all, parents.

In conclusion, by mistaking this country's founding as being based on mass democracy rather than on republican principles, and by ignoring the constitutionally limited role of the federal government, this resolution promotes misunderstanding about the type of government necessary to protect liberty. Such constitutional illiteracy may be more dangerous than historical ignorance, since the belief that America was founded to be a democracy legitimizes the idea that Congress may violate people's fundamental rights at will. I, therefore, encourage my colleagues to embrace America's true heritage: a constitutional republic with strict limitations on the power of the central government.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, in 1988, National Endowment for the Humanities issued a report concluding that more than 80 percent of colleges and universities permitted students to graduate without taking a course in American history. Now, thirteen years later, standards have fallen even further with 78 percent of America's elite college and universities not requiring their student to take any history course at all. The results of this lackadaisical approach to learning and understanding our own country's history is devastating.

In a survey conducted by the American Council of Trustees and Alumni, only 23 percent of the students surveyed correctly identified James Madison as the "Father of the Constitution" while 54 percent incorrectly iden-

tified Thomas Jefferson. Unfortunately, the final results of the survey are equally embarrassing, with 65 percent of the students receiving a 59 percent or an "F" grade. This is unacceptable.

The poor performance of these students from America's top universities and colleges should serve as a wake-up call to Members of Congress that the academic quality of our history education programs is deteriorating to the point of no return.

But rather than take steps to improve these horrendous statistics with actual education reforms, the majority voted to slash teacher-training and student loan programs and recently rejected my amendment to moderately increase funding for the National Endowment for the Humanities, one of the only agencies that strives to preserve our nation's history through education.

I am a proud co-sponsor of S. Con. Res. 129 and I wholeheartedly agree that Congress needs to eradicate the profound historical illiteracy that currently plagues our nation's young people, but we can do better than to pass a "feel-good, do-nothing" resolution.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PETRI. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. PETRI) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate concurrent resolution, S. Con. Res. 129.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate concurrent resolution was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

DESCHUTES RESOURCES CONSERVANCY REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1999

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1787) to reauthorize the participation of the Bureau of Reclamation in the Deschutes Resources Conservancy, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1787

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Deschutes Resources Conservancy Reauthorization Act of 1999".

SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF PARTICIPATION OF BUREAU OF RECLAMATION IN DESCHUTES RESOURCES CONSERVANCY.

Section 301 of the Oregon Resource Conservation Act of 1996 (division B of Public Law 104-208; 110 Stat. 3009-534) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(3), by inserting before the period at the end the following: "; and up to a total amount of \$2,000,000 during each of fiscal years 2002 through 2006"; and

(2) in subsection (h), by inserting before the period at the end the following: "and \$2,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2002 through 2006".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) and the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material on H.R. 1787.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oregon?

There was no objection.

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I appreciate the efforts of the gentleman from California (Mr. DOOLITTLE) and his staff in helping me to bring forward H.R. 1787, the Deschutes Resources Conservancy Reauthorization bill. I also appreciate the support of the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) for this important bill.

The DRC is one of the best examples of a win-win program that I have ever seen. Because it is a consensus-based mission, it brings together central Oregonians from diverse backgrounds and should be the model for other resource management programs across our great country.

The DRC has brought together interests who have historically, at times, been at odds in competing for the limited supply of our resources. Board members include ranchers, the Bureau of Reclamation, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Warm Springs Tribes, the Forest Service, timber companies, developers and environmentalists, all working together and doing exceptional projects on the ground in central Oregon to improve water quality and water quantity.

The beauty of the DRC model is that they are taking scarce Federal dollars and then leveraging them with other grants to obtain the greatest impact. In 1999, the DRC leveraged its \$450,000 appropriation to complete more than \$2.1 million in on-the-ground restoration projects, more than a 4 to 1 ratio. These projects include piping irrigation district delivery systems to prevent water losses; securing in-stream water rights to restore flows to Squaw Creek; providing riparian fences to protect water banks; working with private timber landowners to restore riparian and wetland areas; and seeking donated water rights to enhance in-stream flows in the Deschutes River Basin.

Madam Speaker, I wholeheartedly support the reauthorization of this sound conservation program for another 5 years and support the increase of its reauthorization level. If the authorization level is increased as requested in this legislation, I do not have any objections to including the

Department of Agriculture as an additional funding source.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this sound environmental legislation.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I want to thank the gentleman from Oregon for explaining this legislation. He has done more than an adequate job explaining the values of the Deschutes Resources Conservancy and I urge Members to support this legislation.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1787.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH ACT REAUTHORIZATION

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4132) to reauthorize grants for water resources research and technology institutes established under the Water Resources Research Act of 1984.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4132

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. REAUTHORIZATION OF WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH ACT OF 1984.

(a) WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH PROGRAM GRANTS.—Section 104(f)(1) of the Water Resources Research Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10303(f)(1)) is amended by striking “\$5,000,000 for fiscal year 1996, \$7,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1997 and 1998, and \$9,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1999 and 2000” and inserting “\$9,000,000 for fiscal year 2001, \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2002 and 2003, and \$12,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 and 2005”.

(b) GRANTS FOR RESEARCH FOCUSED ON WATER PROBLEMS OF INTERSTATE NATURE.—The first sentence of section 104(g)(1) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 10303(g)(1)) is amended by striking “\$3,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1996 through 2000” and inserting “\$3,000,000 for fiscal year 2001, \$4,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2002 and 2003, and \$6,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 and 2005”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) and the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that

all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 4132.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oregon?

There was no objection.

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, in partnership with the U.S. Geological Survey, the Water Resources Research Institutes have the capability to provide important support to the States in their long-term water planning, policy development and resources management efforts. The state water resources research institutes, under the authority of the Water Resources Research Act, have established an effective Federal-State partnership in water resources, education, and information transfer. These institutes are located in each of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, the Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, and Guam/Federated States of Micronesia. They have worked with State and Federal agencies and water resources stakeholders in their home States for more than 3 decades while acting as a network for the exchange of water resources research and information transfer among States.

This legislation will reauthorize the Water Resources Research Act of 1984 for the fiscal years 2001 through 2005. It will provide increased funding for the water resources research program grants and provide an increase in the authorization for grants for research focused on water problems of an interstate nature.

We recognize the important role of these institutes and the role they play in our understanding of water policy and planning throughout the United States, and I urge passage of this legislation.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of H.R. 4132, a bill to amend the Water Resources Research Act of 1984. This legislation extends the authorization's important program for 5 years and provides a modest increase in the authorization of appropriations. The water research program has provided us with extraordinary benefits for many years, and I would ask that all Members support the legislation.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4132.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CAHABA RIVER NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE ESTABLISHMENT ACT

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4286) to provide for the establishment of the Cahaba River National Wildlife Refuge in Bibb County, Alabama, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4286

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Cahaba River National Wildlife Refuge Establishment Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds the following:

(1) The Cahaba River in Alabama is recognized nationally for its unique biological diversity which includes providing habitat for 131 species of fish (more than any other river its size in North America).

(2) The Cahaba River is home to 64 rare and imperiled species of aquatic plants and animals, including fishes, freshwater turtles, mussels, and snails.

(3) The Cahaba River is home to 12 species of fish, mussels, and snails listed as endangered or threatened species.

(4) The Cahaba River is home to 6 terrestrial species of plants and animals listed as endangered or threatened species.

(5) The Cahaba River harbors the largest population in the world of the imperiled shoals lily, known locally as the Cahaba Lily.

(6) The Cahaba River watershed contains extremely rare plant communities that are home to 8 species of plants previously unknown to science and a total of 69 rare and imperiled species of plants.

(7) The Cahaba River is home to at least a dozen endemic aquatic animals that are found nowhere else in the world.

(8) The Cahaba River is the longest remaining free-flowing river in Alabama, flowing through 5 counties in central Alabama.

(9) The Cahaba River is recognized as an Outstanding Alabama Water by the Alabama Department of Environmental Management.

(10) The Cahaba River has high recreational value for hunters, anglers, birdwatchers, canoeists, nature photographers, and others.

(11) The Cahaba River Watershed supports large populations of certain game species, including deer, turkey, and various species of ducks.

(12) The Cahaba River area is deserving of inclusion in the National Wildlife Refuge System.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) REFUGE.—The term "Refuge" means the Cahaba River National Wildlife Refuge established by section 4(a).

(2) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior.

SEC. 4. ESTABLISHMENT OF REFUGE.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There is established in Bibb County, Alabama, the Cahaba National Wildlife Refuge, consisting of approximately 3,500 acres of Federal lands and waters, and interests in lands and waters, within the boundaries depicted upon the map entitled "Cahaba River National Wildlife Refuge—Proposed", dated April 10, 2000.

(2) BOUNDARY REVISIONS.—The Secretary may make such minor revisions of the boundaries of the Refuge as may be appropriate to carry out

the purposes of the Refuge or to facilitate the acquisition of property within the Refuge.

(3) AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—The Secretary shall keep the map referred to in paragraph (1) available for inspection in appropriate offices of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The establishment of the Refuge under paragraph (1) of subsection (a) shall take effect on the date the Secretary publishes, in the Federal Register and publications of local circulation in the vicinity of the area within the boundaries referred to in that paragraph, a notice that sufficient property has been acquired by the United States within those boundaries to constitute an area that can be efficiently managed as a National Wildlife Refuge.

SEC. 5. ACQUISITION OF LANDS AND WATERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, subject to the availability of appropriations, may acquire up to 3,500 acres of lands and waters, or interests therein, within the boundaries of the Refuge described in section 4(a)(1).

(b) INCLUSION IN REFUGE.—Any lands, waters, or interests acquired by the Secretary under this section shall be part of the Refuge.

SEC. 6. ADMINISTRATION.

In administering the Refuge, the Secretary shall—

(1) conserve, enhance, and restore the native aquatic and terrestrial community characteristics of the Cahaba River (including associated fish, wildlife, and plant species);

(2) conserve, enhance, and restore habitat to maintain and assist in the recovery of animals and plants that are listed under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.);

(3) in providing opportunities for compatible fish- and wildlife-oriented recreation, ensure that hunting, fishing, wildlife observation and photography, and environmental education and interpretation are the priority general public uses of the Refuge, in accordance with section 4(a)(3) and (4) of the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 668ee(a)(3), (4)); and

(4) encourage the use of volunteers and to facilitate partnerships among the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, local communities, conservation organizations, and other non-Federal entities to promote public awareness of the resources of the Cahaba River National Wildlife Refuge and the National Wildlife Refuge System and public participation in the conservation of those resources.

SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary—

(1) such funds as may be necessary for the acquisition of lands and waters within the boundaries of the Refuge; and

(2) such funds as may be necessary for the development, operation, and maintenance of the Refuge.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) and the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Mrs. MINK) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 4286, as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oregon?

There was no objection.

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, H.R. 4286, introduced by our colleagues, the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BACHUS) and the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. RILEY) would establish the 3,500 acre Cahaba River National Wildlife Refuge in Bibb County, Alabama.

The Cahaba is the longest free-flowing river in Alabama and it may have the greatest concentration of fish biodiversity per mile of any river in the United States. It has been called "Alabama's rain forest" because it contains essential habitat for 69 rare and imperiled species and 131 species of fish. There are 13 species found nowhere else in the world but in the Cahaba River.

During the hearing on this bill, the subcommittee learned that only those landowners who are interested in selling their property were included within the proposed boundaries of the refuge. Furthermore, one of our witnesses, Ms. Wendy Allen of the Alabama Nature Conservancy testified that "This refuge represents an outstanding opportunity to protect some of the rarest species in the world via a remarkable public/private partnership."

The goals of this refuge would be to conserve native aquatic species, assist in the recovery of listed plants and animals, provide opportunities for wildlife-dependent recreation, and encourage partnerships and volunteers to assist in the operation of this refuge.

The Cahaba River is a unique, beautiful and pristine area that is worthy of refuge designation. I urge an "aye" vote on this important conservation measure, and I compliment the authors of this legislation for their outstanding leadership.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I would like to take the time for the minority to speak in support of this legislation. This legislation is an important effort to establish a new National Wildlife Refuge in central Alabama along a 3½ mile reach of the Cahaba River.

The Cahaba River is a remarkable river in its biological diversity and concentration of rare endangered species. As examples, the Cahaba River Watershed provides habitat for 69 rare and imperiled aquatic species and 32 animal and plant species that are protected under the Endangered Species Act, including 13 endemic species that are found nowhere else in the world. This section of the Cahaba River should be added to the national wildlife refuge system to ensure its long-term protection.

H.R. 4286 was improved and clarified during its consideration by the Committee on Resources. I had the opportunity to sit in on the presentation of this bill by its sponsors. I am told the administration fully supports the enactment of H.R. 4286, and I urge my colleagues to vote "aye."

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Madam Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. RILEY).

Mr. RILEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 4286, a bill that would establish the Cahaba River national wildlife refuge. I also wish to acknowledge efforts by the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BACHUS), my good friend and colleague who has worked very hard to make this bill a reality.

The Cahaba River bill provides a rare opportunity for Congress to do something that is finally supported by environmentalists, industry groups, and all of our local municipalities. The Cahaba River runs through five counties in central Alabama, but as it meanders its way south of metropolitan Birmingham, water quality and habitat are adversely affected due to water degradation, siltation, and habitat destruction. Fortunately for all of us, this damage is not irreparable.

Right now, the Piper Bridge area of the third district of Alabama's Bibb County is used largely for silvaculture. In purchasing the land, the Federal Government would agree to maintain the area for public use and would ensure access.

The Cahaba River National Wildlife Refuge will conserve, enhance, and restore one of the most distinct and threatened rivers in the world. In its main stem, the Cahaba River is one of the most diverse rivers in North America, containing over 130 species. Of these species, 13 are found only in this river, and another 22 are believed to be seriously imperiled in this and other ecosystems.

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These 3,500 acres are currently owned by four different landowners. All four have agreed to sell or convey the land, and all four have expressed their support for the national wildlife refuge. The approximate cost of \$7 million, which will come out of the Land and Water Conservation Fund, is a relatively small sum for what we stand to gain.

Furthermore, it can be expected that this magnificent area will generate ecotourism revenue, which still remains a priority for many of us that represent rural districts.

Madam Speaker, I suggest that the return on investment for the wildlife refuge makes this one of the best deals before Congress this session. I would also like to invite all of my colleagues on either side of the aisle to view this river for themselves. There are few sites as moving, as stunningly beautiful, as the Cahaba River when it is covered by the Cahaba Lily in full bloom. It looks to be like a sheet of pure white over the river, while a multitude of creatures flourish beneath.

In closing, Madam Speaker, we must protect this most beautiful of rivers while we still have the opportunity, so I ask for the support of all my colleagues in the House in helping to pre-

serve what I truly believe is a national treasure.

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BACHUS).

Mr. BACHUS. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

Madam Speaker, the Cahaba River has 131 species of fish, fresh water fish. That may not mean a lot, we have heard that figure twice today, but let me put that in comparison. That is more species of fresh water fish than the entire State of California. It has more mussels, more species of mussels, than Europe. It has, as the gentleman has already said, more endangered species among those 131 of any river in the United States.

But it goes beyond that. It has eight plants which had never been discovered. They were discovered on an expedition in 1992. It has more species of crayfish than any other river in the United States. So we are talking about a national treasure. We are talking about a national treasure that will not be here for our grandchildren unless we pass this bill.

The reason for that is that this river has been preserved along its lower course in its natural state until the past 5 or 10 years, as metropolitan Birmingham began to encroach on its watershed, and there was a tremendous amount of development in the upper watershed. In fact, today during the dry season as much as 99 percent of the water flow is diverted from the Cahaba River. That has had a tremendous negative impact on the lower stretches of the river.

Also, as this river becomes more and more known for its beauty, it has the largest stand of what is called aquatic lilies in the world. That has been advertised in the past 4 or 5 years. People have come down by the hundreds to view these lilies. Unfortunately, when they have come, they have actually gotten into the river and used crowbars and ripped some of these bulbs from the river, because this stand of lilies is in an area of the river that is owned by private landowners.

This has disturbed the people of Bibb County, who have enjoyed this beautiful river for years. The Bibb County Commission, the cities along the lower stretches of the river, and the landowners themselves all uniformly agreed that something needed to be done.

The Nature Conservancy, this is the national Nature Conservancy, they published a book in 1998, and in that they said, and I think this is something that all of us in Congress probably do not realize, and I know I did not, it said, "Few of us realize that the diversity of life in fresh water systems in the United States is exceptional, even when compared to the tropics. However, two centuries of dam construction, water withdrawals, land use alterations, pollution, and introduction of non-native species have led to the ac-

celeration and in many cases irreparable losses of fresh water species."

They then went on to identify some watersheds that contain these endangered species. Unfortunately, this publication points out that Alabama leads the Nation in the number of species which are now extinct. Eight percent of the fresh water in the United States flows through Alabama. We have more passable rivers, more navigable rivers in miles, over 1,400, than any other State, but we have the dubious distinction of having the most extinct species.

We also have 69 that are endangered. Fortunately, almost all of those reside within this 15-mile stretch, so this piece of legislation is the first step in preserving this river and these species not only of fish but also of mussels and crayfish and other animals in the river from extinction. I would urge a "yes" vote.

Madam Speaker, in addition to my remarks, I would also like to express my sincere thanks to several people who have made this legislation a success.

Wendy Allen and the Members of The Nature Conservancy of Alabama.

Beth Stewart and the Members of the Cahaba River Society.

U.S. Alliance—Coosa Pines and the other private landowners who have been extremely supportive and patient throughout this entire process.

The Bibb County Commission and local Cahaba River Authority.

Commissioner Riley B. Smith of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, as well as, Majority Leader ARMEY for scheduling the bill on the Suspension Calendar today and Chairman DON YOUNG and Subcommittee Chair Mr. SAXTON for their support of this bill.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I think the Members obviously have made a compelling case, the case that we heard in committee for the protection of the Cahaba River. I would hope that all Members would support this legislation.

Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4286, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE SYSTEM CENTENNIAL ACT

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and

pass the bill (H.R. 4442) to establish a commission to promote awareness of the National Wildlife Refuge System among the American public as the System celebrates its centennial anniversary in 2003, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4442

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "National Wildlife Refuge System Centennial Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds the following:

(1) President Theodore Roosevelt began the National Wildlife Refuge System by establishing the first refuge at Pelican Island, Florida, on March 14, 1903.

(2) The National Wildlife Refuge System is comprised of more than 93,000,000 acres of Federal lands managed by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service in more than 520 individual refuges and thousands of waterfowl production areas located in all 50 States and the territories of the United States.

(3) The System is the only network of Federal lands dedicated singularly to wildlife conservation and where wildlife dependent recreation and environmental education are priority public uses.

(4) The System serves a vital role in the conservation of millions of migratory birds, endangered species and threatened species, fish, marine mammals, and the habitats on which these species depend.

(5) Each year the System provides millions of Americans with opportunities to participate in wildlife-dependent recreation, including hunting, fishing, and wildlife observation.

(6) Public visitation to National Wildlife Refuges is growing, with more than 35,000,000 visitors annually. It is essential that visitor centers and public use facilities be properly constructed, operated, and maintained.

(7) The National Wildlife Refuge System Volunteer and Community Partnership Enhancement Act of 1998 (Public Law 105-242) significantly enhances the ability to incorporate volunteers and partnerships in refuge management.

(8) The System currently has an unacceptable backlog in critical operations and maintenance needs.

(9) The centennial anniversary of the System in 2003 offers an historic opportunity to appreciate these natural resources and expand public enjoyment of these lands.

(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are the following:

(1) To establish a commission to promote awareness of the National Wildlife Refuge System among the American public as the System celebrates its centennial anniversary in 2003.

(2) To develop a long-term plan to meet the priority operations, maintenance, and construction needs of the System.

(3) To require each fiscal year an annual report prepared in the context of—

(A) the budget submission of the Department of the Interior to the President; and

(B) the President's budget request to the Congress.

(4) To improve public use programs and facilities of the System to meet the increasing needs of the public for wildlife-dependent recreation in the 21st century.

SEC. 3. NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE SYSTEM CENTENNIAL COMMISSION.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is hereby established the National Wildlife Refuge Sys-

tem Centennial Commission (in this Act referred to as the "Commission").

(b) MEMBERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall be composed of the following members:

(A) The Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

(B) Up to 10 persons recommended by the Secretary of the Interior and appointed by the President.

(C) The chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Resources of the House of Representatives and of the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate, the congressional representatives of the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission, and the Secretary of the Interior, who shall be ex-officio members.

(2) APPOINTMENTS.—Members of the Commission shall be appointed no later than 90 days after the effective date of this Act. Persons appointed by the President as members of the Commission may not otherwise be officers or employees of the Federal Government and shall, in the judgment of the President, represent the diverse beneficiaries of the System and have outstanding knowledge or appreciation of wildlife, natural resource management, or wildlife-dependent recreation. In making such appointments, the President shall make every effort to ensure that the views of the hunting, fishing, and wildlife observation communities are represented on the Commission.

(3) VACANCIES.—Any vacancy in the Commission—

(A) shall not affect its power or functions; and

(B) shall be expeditiously filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

(c) CHAIRPERSON.—The President shall appoint one of the members as the Chairperson of the Commission.

(d) BASIC PAY.—The members of the Commission shall receive no compensation for their service on the Commission.

(e) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—

(1) LEGISLATIVE BRANCH MEMBERS.—Members of the Commission from the legislative branch of the Government shall be allowed necessary travel expenses otherwise authorized by law for official travel.

(2) EXECUTIVE BRANCH MEMBERS.—Members of the Commission from the executive branch of the Government shall be allowed necessary travel expenses in accordance with section 5702 of title 5, United States Code.

(3) OTHER MEMBERS AND STAFF.—Members of the Commission appointed by the President and staff of the Commission may be allowed necessary travel or transportation expenses as authorized by section 5702 of title 5, United States Code.

(f) FUNCTIONS.—The Commission shall—

(1) prepare, in cooperation with Federal, State, local, and nongovernmental partners, a plan to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the beginning of the National Wildlife Refuge System on March 14, 2003;

(2) coordinate the activities of such partners undertaken pursuant to such plan; and

(3) plan and host, in cooperation with such partners, a conference on the National Wildlife Refuge System, and assist in the activities of such a conference.

(g) STAFF.—Subject to the availability of appropriations, the Commission may employ staff as necessary to carry out its functions.

(h) DONATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission may, in accordance with criteria established under paragraph (2), accept and use donations of money, personal property, or personal services.

(2) CRITERIA.—The Commission shall establish written criteria to be used in determining whether the acceptance of gifts or donations under paragraph (1) would—

(A) reflect unfavorably upon the ability of the Commission or any employee of the Commission to carry out its responsibilities or official duties in a fair and objective manner; or

(B) compromise the integrity or the appearance of the integrity of any person involved in those programs.

(i) ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT.—Upon the request of the Commission—

(1) the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, may provide to the Commission the administrative support services necessary for the Commission to carry out its responsibilities under this Act, including services related to budgeting, accounting, financial reporting, personnel, and procurement; and

(2) the head of any other appropriate Federal department or agency may furnish to the Commission such advice and assistance, with or without reimbursement, to assist the Commission in carrying out its functions.

(j) REPORTS.—

(1) ANNUAL REPORTS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Commission shall submit to the Congress an annual report of its activities and plans to Congress.

(2) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than September 30, 2004, the Commission shall submit to the Congress a final report of its activities, including an accounting of all funds received and expended by the Commission.

(k) TERMINATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall terminate upon the submission of its final report under subsection (j).

(2) DISPOSITION OF MATERIALS.—Upon termination of the Commission and after consultation with the Archivist of the United States and the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, the Secretary of the Interior—

(A) may deposit all books, manuscripts, miscellaneous printed matter, memorabilia, relics, and other similar materials of the Commission relating to the 100th anniversary of the National Wildlife Refuge System in Federal, State, or local libraries or museums or otherwise dispose of such materials; and

(B) may use other property acquired by the Commission for the purposes of the National Wildlife Refuge System, or treat such property as excess property.

SEC. 4. FULFILLING THE PROMISE OF AMERICA'S NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE SYSTEM: LONG-TERM PLANNING AND ANNUAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS REGARDING THE OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE BACKLOG.

(a) UNIFIED LONG-TERM PLAN.—No later than March 1, 2002, the Secretary of the Interior shall prepare and submit to the Congress and the President a unified long-term plan to address priority operations, maintenance, and construction needs of the National Wildlife Refuge System, including—

(1) priority staffing needs of the System; and

(2) operations, maintenance, and construction needs as identified in the Refuge Operating Needs System, the Maintenance Management System, the 5-year deferred maintenance list, the 5-year construction list, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service report entitled "Fulfilling the Promise of America's National Wildlife Refuge System", and individual refuge comprehensive conservation plans.

(b) ANNUAL SUBMISSION.—Beginning with the budget request for fiscal year 2003, the Secretary of the Interior shall prepare and submit in the context of each annual budget submission, a report that contains—

(1) an assessment of expenditures in the prior, current, and upcoming fiscal years to

meet the operations and maintenance backlog as identified in the long-term plan under subsection (a); and

(2) transition costs in the prior, current, and upcoming fiscal years, as identified in the Department of the Interior analysis of newly acquired refuge lands, and a description of the method used to determine the priority status of these needs.

SEC. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act shall become effective on January 20, 2001.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) and the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN).

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, today we are considering H.R. 4442. This is the National Wildlife Refuge System Centennial Act. This legislation was introduced by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SAXTON), along with a list of distinguished cosponsors, including the committee chairman, the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG), and the ranking member, my colleague and friend, the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER).

This legislation recognizes a great achievement in conservation, 100 years of the National Wildlife System. While this is an important milestone, H.R. 4442 recognizes that we still have work ahead of us to reduce the operations and maintenance backlog within the refuge system. H.R. 4442 establishes a commission to plan activities to commemorate the 100th anniversary of this system. The bill also requires the Secretary to submit a comprehensive plan for addressing the maintenance and operations backlog within the refuge system.

This bill is supported by the administration and is noncontroversial. The American people deserve the finest refuge system in the world. I urge an aye vote on this important measure.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I want to join my colleague from Oregon in calling for the support of this legislation to establish the Centennial Committee to coordinate the 100th anniversary of the refuge system.

Our National Wildlife Refuge system is one of the most magnificent land systems that we have in this country. It is the only system that we have where lands are set aside exclusively for the protection and conservation of fish, wildlife, and their habitats, and it is something that we can be very proud of as a nation. It is envied by countries all over the world for the foresight that so many people in different locations had to try and protect these available ecosystems and the refuge systems to protect fish and wildlife.

I also want to recognize that the workload of the Fish and Wildlife Service to manage these refuges has continued to soar as the public has continued to want to enjoy them, as they become outdoor schoolrooms for children to learn about fish and wildlife, for communities to learn about the interaction of fish and wildlife and our environment.

I want to thank the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. GILCHREST), the Audubon Society, and others for working out an amendment to the legislation with the Department of the Interior.

Mr. SAXTON. Madam Speaker, I am pleased that today the House is considering H.R. 4442, the National Wildlife Refuge System Centennial Act. I am joined in this important effort by 17 cosponsors, including the distinguished Chairman of the House Resources Committee, DON YOUNG, the Ranking Democratic Member of the Committee, GEORGE MILLER, the Ranking Democratic Subcommittee Member, ENI FALEOMAVAEGA, the Dean of the House of Representatives, JOHN DINGELL, and our colleague, DUKE CUNNINGHAM.

Since becoming Chairman of the House Subcommittee on Fisheries Conservation, Wildlife and Oceans, I have held many hearings on the operation, maintenance, and management of our nation's National Wildlife Refuge System. This unique system of Federal lands provides essential habitat for hundreds of fish and wildlife species, including more than 258 species listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act.

The first wildlife refuge was created at Pelican Island, Florida, in 1903 by President Theodore Roosevelt. Today the System has 521 refuges and 38 wetland management districts, which are located in all 50 States and the 9 Commonwealths, Territories, and island possessions. These units range in size from the smallest of less than one acre, the Mille Lacs National Wildlife Refuge in Minnesota, to the largest of 19.3 million acres in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska. Money for refuge land acquisition primarily comes from the Land and Water Conservation Fund and the Migratory Bird Conservation Fund.

During the past five years, my Subcommittee has taken a leadership role in approving legislation to improve our National Wildlife Refuge System. Without question, the most important change was the enactment of the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997. This landmark Act, P.L. 105-57, was sponsored by Chairman DON YOUNG and, for the first time, it created a comprehensive "organic law" governing the management of the world's largest and most diverse network of lands devoted to fish and wildlife. This historic measure also created a statutory shield to ensure that hunting and fishing and other forms of wildlife-dependent recreation will continue within the Refuge System, and it facilitates these traditional activities where compatible with conservation.

The second improvement, which I was honored to sponsor, was the National Wildlife Refuge System Volunteer and Community Partnership Enhancement Act. This legislation will improve the infrastructure of the Refuge System by encouraging volunteer activities. In 1999, over 28,000 individuals volunteered more than 1.3 million hours, which was worth more than \$11 million in services. These serv-

ices included staffing visitors centers, conducting hunter safety classes, landscaping, and operating heavy equipment. My bill, which was signed into law on October 5, 1998, and will encourage additional volunteers by establishing up to 20 pilot projects for the purpose of hiring full-time volunteer coordinators. It also made it easier for interested individuals and groups to donate money or services to a particular refuge.

Finally, during the past four years, a bipartisan group of Members, including myself, DON YOUNG, GEORGE MILLER, ENI FALEOMAVAEGA, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, JOHN DINGELL, and others have vigorously lobbied the House Appropriations Committee to increase funding to reduce the Refuge System's operations and maintenance backlog. Together with the Cooperative Alliance for Refuge Enhancement [CARE], we were successful in persuading our Appropriations colleagues to increase funding for this account by \$86 million, which is a down payment on the maintenance backlog. While these increases were significant, there is much work to be done to reach the goal of having a fully operational Refuge System by 2003.

The legislation we are considering today recognizes the vital importance of the Refuge System and the fact that the System will celebrate its Centennial Anniversary in three years. Under the terms of this bill, a Commission will be established to promote awareness of the System; develop a long-term plan to meet the priority operations, maintenance and construction needs of the System; and to improve public use programs and facilities.

The National Wildlife Refuge System Centennial Commission would be composed of 11 voting members, including the Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. In addition, the Chairman and Ranking Minority Members of the House Resources and Senate Environment and Public Works Committees, plus the Congressional Members of the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission, would serve as ex officio members.

The Commission would be charged with the responsibility for preparing a plan to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the System, coordinating activities to celebrate that event, and hosting a conference on the National Wildlife Refuge System. The Commission would issue annual reports and would terminate no later than September 30, 2004.

Finally, this bill directs the Secretary of the Interior to prepare and submit to the Congress a long-term plan to address priority operations, maintenance, and construction needs of the National Wildlife Refuge System.

Madam Speaker, the American people deserve the finest Refuge System in the world. This bill is supported by the Administration and is noncontroversial. It is an appropriate next step in our efforts to ensure that the legacy of Theodore Roosevelt, one of our nation's greatest conservationists, will live on in the years ahead.

Again, I want to thank my distinguished colleagues for joining with me in this endeavor, and I urge enthusiastic support for the National Wildlife Refuge System Centennial Act.

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, I wish to voice my strong support for H.R. 4442, The National Wildlife Refuge System Centennial Act. My congressional district in western Wisconsin has more miles along the Mississippi River than another other district in the basin. My district is also home to the Upper Mississippi

River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge, a refuge whose 200,000 acres extend 261 miles southward from Wabasha, Minnesota to just north of Rock Island, Illinois.

The Upper Mississippi Refuge lies at the heart of an area that serves as a migratory flyway for 40 percent of North America's waterfowl. It provides habitat for some 292 species of birds, 57 species of mammals, 37 species of amphibians and reptiles, and 118 species of fish. Moreover, it is the most widely used of all our National Wildlife Refuges, attracting roughly 3.5 million visitors a year—more than Yellowstone National Park.

Despite this fact, the Upper Mississippi Refuge currently lacks a full-time refuge manager. The nation's busiest refuge does not have a visitor center and there is only one handicapped boat landing along the entire border of the refuge.

I support Mr. SAXTON's National Wildlife Refuge System Centennial Act of 2000 because it will draw much needed public attention to the rich resources and the serious needs of Region 3 refuges as well as others across the nation. H.R. 4442 endorses Secretary Babbitt's directive to the Fish and Wildlife Service to develop a long-term plan to address the priority operations, maintenance, and construction needs of the Refuge System. This legislation goes a long way toward ensuring that the Refuge System will remain strong and vital for many years to come.

I urge my colleagues in the House to vote in favor of H.R. 4442.

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, March 14, 2003 will mark a milestone in the history of wildlife in America—the centennial anniversary of the National Wildlife Refuge System.

When President Theodore Roosevelt set aside tiny Pelican Island on Florida's East Coast for birds nearly a century ago, he began a conservation legacy that now spans 93 million acres across the United States and its territories.

The National Wildlife Refuge System is America's only network of federal lands dedicated specifically to wildlife conservation, representing a steadfast commitment to protecting our wildlife heritage.

This vast network of strategically located habitats protect hundreds of endangered species, serves as stepping stones for millions of migratory birds and conserves our premier fisheries.

Incredibly, one of these stepping stones lies just 26 miles west of New York City's Times Square. The Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge in Morris County, New Jersey, which is just north of my district, was established in 1960.

This 7,500-acre refuge consists of swamp woodland, hardwood ridges and cattail marsh. In the heart of one of the most densely populated areas in the world, the Refuge is home to more than 220 species of birds, as well as white tail deer, mink, beaver, river otter and coyote.

As development and sprawl continue to swallow more and more of our nation's critical wildlife habitat, we need to ensure that refuges like the Great Swamp continue to thrive. I have worked with my colleagues in Congress to protect our irreplaceable ecosystems by re-instituting full state funding in Land and Water Conservation Fund. We are now setting aside proceeds from offshore oil drilling to protect our open spaces.

H.R. 4442, the National Wildlife Refuge System Centennial Act would greatly help improve the operations, maintenance and expansion of the refuge system to ensure that wildlife gets the protection it deserves. The refuge system currently has a \$1 billion operations backlog and a \$800 million maintenance backlog. H.R. 4442 would require the Secretary of the Interior to prepare and submit to Congress a long term plan to address these deficiencies and outline system expansion.

Maybe most importantly, however, this legislation would establish a commission to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the refuge system. This would be instrumental in broadening public understanding and appreciation of protecting our wildlife heritage.

I strongly urge all of my colleagues to support this important legislation.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, I urge support for this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4442, as amended.

The question was taken.

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Madam Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

SENSE OF THE HOUSE REGARDING ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL OCEAN DAY

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 415) expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that there should be established a National Ocean Day to recognize the significant role the ocean plays in the lives of the Nation's people and the important role the Nation's people must play in the continued life of the ocean, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 415

Whereas the oceans cover 71 percent of the Earth's surface and are key to the life support systems for all creatures on this planet;

Whereas the oceans contain a wondrous abundance and diversity of life, from the smallest microorganism to the mammoth blue whale;

Whereas 2/3 of the world's people live within 50 miles of a coast and 1 out of 6 American jobs are in fishing, shipping, or tourism;

Whereas the oceans provide almost limitless opportunities for exploration and discovery, and could supply a key source of life-saving medicines and treatments;

Whereas oceanography has contributed to an understanding of global climate change and the effects of the ocean on climate and weather,

which inevitably has an impact on safety and quality of life;

Whereas efforts are underway to develop a new ocean monitoring system that will give us a better understanding of the critical relationship between oceans and global climate change;

Whereas a deepened understanding of the seas will enable us to track marine mammals, predict deadly storms such as those associated with El Nino, detect illegal fishing, and gain new insights into the complexities of climate change;

Whereas the oceans and coastal areas supply vital sources of food upon which people depend and that could be deteriorated by poor stewardship;

Whereas decades of pollution from industrial waste, sewage, and toxic runoff have taken their toll on the health of the oceans and on the marine life in them;

Whereas recent studies suggest that nearly 60 percent of the world's coral reefs, the "rainforests of the sea", are being degraded or destroyed by human activities and ten percent of the reefs may already be degraded beyond recovery;

Whereas fisheries and the food and products they produce are essential to the world's economy and steps should be taken to ensure that they do not become overexploited;

Whereas in the 21st century, people will look increasingly to the oceans to meet their everyday needs;

Whereas the oceans' resources are limited, and nations must work together to conserve them;

Whereas the oceans are the core of our own humanity, a treasure shared by all nations of the world, and our stewardship of this resource is our responsibility to our children, grandchildren, and all of Earth's inhabitants;

Whereas June 8th was declared Oceans Day at the Earth Summit Conference in Rio de Janeiro in 1992 and similar declarations have been made by individual nations;

Whereas the State of Hawaii has designated the first Wednesday of June as Ocean Day, in recognition of the very significant role the ocean plays in the lives of Hawaii's people, as well as Hawaii's culture, history, and traditions; and

Whereas the establishment of a National Ocean Day will raise awareness of the vital role oceans play in human life and that human beings must play in the life of the ocean: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the House of Representatives that a National Ocean Day should be established to recognize the significant role the ocean plays in the lives of the Nation's people, and the important role the Nation's people must play in the continued life of the ocean.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) and the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVEGA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on House Resolution 415, as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oregon?

There was no objection.

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased today that the House is considering House

Resolution 415. This is a resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that a National Oceans Day should be established to recognize the significant role the ocean plays in our lives, that the ocean's resources are limited, and therefore, nations must work together to conserve them.

The oceans will continue to play an important role in the lives of our Nation's people, especially as the population grows. Currently, more than 50 percent of the Nation's population lives in the coastal areas of the United States, and one out of six American jobs is in fishing, shipping, or tourism. Yet, we do not have a full understanding of the oceans and their resources, upon which we rely so heavily.

Declaring a National Oceans Day would draw the public's attention to the importance of their relationship to the ocean, and more importantly, to the need for responsible stewardship. Internationally there has been recognition of the importance of the oceans, and the State of Hawaii has led the way in this country by declaring a day in June as Ocean Day.

Madam Speaker, I believe we should as a nation join in celebrating the significance of our oceans. I urge the House to support this resolution.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 415, a resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that there should be established a National Oceans Day to recognize the significant role the oceans play in our lives today and in the years to come.

I certainly want to thank the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Mrs. MINK) for introducing this legislation. I also want to thank the committee chairman, the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG), and our ranking Democrat member, the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER), for their support of this resolution.

Madam Speaker, as we toil away in our offices today in Washington, D.C., it is quite easy to forget just how dependent we are on the world's oceans. With two-thirds of the Earth's surface covered with water, mostly oceans, they have a significant impact on our daily lives and everyone on this planet. The oceans' ability to retain heat longer than land masses provides a steady influence on daily temperature changes, and the energy generated by hurricanes and cyclones is felt throughout the equatorial regions, as well as through the subtropical zones.

Small increases in temperature could melt large amounts of ice at the poles. This will have an impact on coastal areas and an enormous impact on some

small island countries in the Pacific, as well as in the Atlantic region, possibly totally submerging some of these atolls.

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Madam Speaker, the ocean also provides substance to much of the world's population through seafood and shellfish. In 1999, and for the 10th consecutive year, and for the information of my colleagues, the value of the volume of fish and shellfish imported into the United States now is at a record of over \$9 billion, approximately 3.9 billion pounds.

The recreation and employment provided by the world's oceans are also significant. Coming from a small island community, Madam Speaker, I am intimately familiar with the ocean and am constantly reminded of the influence it has upon all of us. Passage of this resolution can serve as an annual reminder to all of us as to the important role the oceans play in our lives.

Madam Speaker, as the world's population develops in further appreciation of this important role, we can hope that the human race will treat the oceans with more respect, thereby maintaining this most important, valuable resource in our planet today.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Madam Speaker, I have no one else to speak on this, and I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure and honor to yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Mrs. MINK), who is the chief sponsor of this resolution.

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 415 which expresses the sense of Congress that a National Ocean Day should be established in recognition of the vital role that the ocean plays in the lives of our Nation's people and the significant impact our people have on the health of this essential resource.

I want to take this time to thank the chairman of this committee, the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG); the ranking member, the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) of the Committee on Resources; the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SAXTON); the ranking member, the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) of the Subcommittee on Fisheries Conservation, Wildlife and Oceans for their efforts in bringing this bill to the floor today.

The oceans cover 71 percent of the Earth's surface and are key to the life support systems for all creatures on our planet. The oceans contain a wondrous abundance and diversity of life, and two-thirds of the world's people live within 50 miles of a coast and one out of six American jobs are marine related.

On June 8, the Earth's Summit Conference convened in Rio de Janeiro on 1992 and declared Oceans Day as part of the recognition of the importance of this resource and similar declarations have been made by other countries.

My own State followed suit shortly afterwards and declared the first Wednesday of June as Oceans Day in recognition of the significant role that oceans play in the lives of the people of my State.

So the adoption of this resolution will encourage the declaration of Oceans Day for the United States, and I hope that this resolution will pass.

The support of human existence by the oceans goes well beyond fisheries and other coastal resources. Oceanic research has contributed greatly to our understanding of global warming and of the effects of the ocean on climate and weather. Sea surface temperatures have a major effect on atmospheric circulation, warming and cooling trends brought on by the ocean currents like El Nino and La Nina have significant effects on the amount of rainfall, severity of storms and global temperatures. The warming caused by greenhouse gas emissions also affects the temperatures of the ocean.

We take the riches of the ocean for granted at our peril. This incredibly rich resource is neither inexhaustible nor immune to the actions of humankind. Poor stewardship of the oceans pollutes beaches, contaminates the food supply and robs people of a precious resource that they depend upon.

More than two-thirds of the world's fisheries are over exploited and more than a third of the world's fisheries are in a state of decline. Nearly 60 percent of the oceans' coral reefs, the rain forests of the sea, are degraded and destroyed by human activities.

In the 21st century, people will look increasingly to the resources of the oceans to meet its need. It is vital that the United States take the lead in ensuring that the oceans are recognized for its importance and protected so that its riches can be enjoyed and available for future declarations.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote for this resolution.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, I support H. Res. 415 and urge all Members to do the same. The oceans are vital to the welfare of this Nation and its people. The idea of taking one day annually to remind people why they need to appreciate our oceans and coasts should attract broad bipartisan support.

Much of today's public awareness in the environment is attributed to the establishment 30 years ago of the first Earth Day. But as much as I applaud the success of Earth Day, it is my impression that we can and should do more to inform the public about the many threats confronting our oceans and coasts.

I have been encouraged by recent efforts of the Clinton administration that have focused public attention on ocean issues such as the International Year of the Reef in 1997, and the International Year of the Ocean in 1998. But it appears to me that an annual event to rally

public support and interest in the oceans is needed if we are to sustain long-term public awareness.

H. Res. 415 would be a very helpful step in that direction, and I commend our colleague from Hawaii, Congresswoman PATSY MINK, for proposing this resolution. I also commend the Chairman of the Fisheries Subcommittee, Mr. SAXTON, and the ranking Democrat, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, for their support and cooperation in fine-tuning the resolution while it was under consideration by the Resources Committee. I urge all Members to support this bipartisan resolution.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Madam Speaker, I have no other speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 415, as amended.

The question was taken.

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Madam Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

GRIFFITH PROJECT PREPAYMENT AND CONVEYANCE ACT

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 986) to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey the Griffith Project to the Southern Nevada Water Authority.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 986

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Griffith Project Prepayment and Conveyance Act".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) The term "Authority" means the Southern Nevada Water Authority, organized under the laws of the State of Nevada.

(2) The term "Griffith Project" means the Robert B. Griffith Water Project, authorized by and constructed pursuant to the Southern Nevada Water Project Act, Public Law 89-292, as amended, (commonly known as the "Southern Nevada Water Project Act") (79 Stat. 1068), including pipelines, conduits, pumping plants, intake facilities, aqueducts, laterals, water storage and regulatory facilities, electric substations, and related works and improvements listed pursuant to "Robert B. Griffith Water Project (Formerly Southern Nevada Water Project), Nevada: Southern Clark County, Lower Colorado Region Bureau of Reclamation", on file at the Bureau of Reclamation and all interests in land acquired under Public Law 89-292, as amended.

(3) The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior.

(4) The term "Acquired Land(s)" means all interests in land, including fee title, right(s)-of-way, and easement(s), acquired by the United States from non-Federal sources by purchase, donation, exchange, or condemnation pursuant to Public Law 89-292, as amended for the Griffith Project.

(5) The term "Public Land" means lands which have never left Federal ownership and are under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management.

(6) The term "Withdrawn Land" means Federal lands which are withdrawn from settlement, sale, location of minerals, or entry under some or all of the general land laws and are reserved for a particular public purpose pursuant to Public Law 89-292, as amended, under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Reclamation, or are reserved pursuant to Public Law 88-639 under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service.

SEC. 3. CONVEYANCE OF GRIFFITH PROJECT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In consideration of the Authority assuming from the United States all liability for administration, operation, maintenance, and replacement of the Griffith Project and subject to the prepayment by the Authority of the Federal repayment amount of \$121,204,348 (which amount shall be increased to reflect any accrued unpaid interest and shall be decreased by the amount of any additional principal payments made by the Authority after September 15, 1999, prior to the date on which prepayment occurs), the Secretary shall, pursuant to the provisions of this Act—

(1) convey and assign to the Authority all of the right, title, and interest of the United States in and to improvements and facilities of the Griffith Project in existence as of the date of this Act;

(2) convey and assign to the Authority all of the right, title, and interest of the United States to Acquired Lands that were acquired for the Griffith Project; and

(3) convey and assign to the Authority all interests reserved and developed as of the date of this Act for the Griffith Project in lands patented by the United States.

(b) Pursuant to the authority of this section, from the effective date of conveyance of the Griffith Project, the Authority shall have a right of way at no cost across all Public Land and Withdrawn Land—

(1) on which the Griffith Project is situated; and

(2) across any Federal lands as reasonably necessary for the operation, maintenance, replacement, and repair of the Griffith Project, including existing access routes.

Rights of way established by this section shall be valid for as long as they are needed for municipal water supply purposes and shall not require payment of rental or other fee.

(c) Within twelve months after the effective date of this Act—

(1) the Secretary and the Authority shall agree upon a description of the land subject to the rights of way established by subsection (b) of this section; and

(2) the Secretary shall deliver to the Authority a document memorializing such rights of way.

(d) REPORT.—If the conveyance under subsection (a) has not occurred within twelve months after the effective date of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on the status of the conveyance.

SEC. 4. RELATIONSHIP TO EXISTING CONTRACTS.

The Secretary and the Authority may modify Contract No. 7-07-30-W0004 and other contracts and land permits as necessary to conform to the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 5. RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER LAWS AND FUTURE BENEFITS.

(a) If the Authority changes the use or operation of the Griffith Project, the Authority shall comply with all applicable laws and regulations governing the changes at that time.

(b) On conveyance of the Griffith Project under section 3 of this Act, the Act of June 17, 1902 (43 U.S.C. 391 et seq.), and all Acts amendatory thereof or supplemental thereto shall not apply to the Griffith Project. Effective upon transfer, the lands and facilities transferred pursuant to this Act shall not be entitled to receive any further Reclamation benefits pursuant to the Act of June 17, 1902, and all Acts amendatory thereof or supplemental thereto attributable to their status as a Federal Reclamation Project, and the Griffith Project shall no longer be a Federal Reclamation Project.

(c) Nothing in this Act shall transfer or affect Federal ownership, rights, or interests in Lake Mead National Recreation Area associated lands, nor affect the authorities of the National Park Service to manage Lake Mead National Recreation Area including lands on which the Griffith Project is located consistent with the Act of August 25, 1916 (39 Stat. 535), Public Law 88-639, October 8, 1964 (78 Stat. 1039), or any other applicable legislation, regulation, or policy.

(d) Nothing in this Act shall affect the application of Federal reclamation law to water delivered to the Authority pursuant to any contract with the Secretary under section 5 of the Boulder Canyon Project Act.

(e) Effective upon conveyance of the Griffith Project and acquired interests in land under section 3 of this Act, the United States shall not be liable for damages of any kind arising out of any act, omission, or occurrence based on its prior ownership of the conveyed property.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) and the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on S. 986.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oregon?

There was no objection.

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, S. 986 was introduced by Senator REID of Nevada and a companion bill was introduced by our friend and colleague, the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. GIBBONS) on May 5 of 1999.

This legislation provides for the Southern Nevada Water Authority to accept responsibility for administration, operation and maintenance of the Griffith Project and to pay the net present value of the remaining repayment obligation. In addition, the bill directs the Secretary to convey and assign to the authority all right, title and interest of the United States in and to the Griffith Project.

The Griffith Project forms an integral part of a much larger water delivery system built separately by the Southern Nevada Water Authority and its constituent agencies. It consists of the intake facilities, pumping plants, et cetera required to provide water from Lake Meade for distribution.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I fully support the passage of S. 986. I note that the Department of the Interior has raised concerns regarding the effect of the bill on the Lake Meade National Recreation area. It is my understanding that the rights of way provisions in S. 986, while generous, are intended to provide the Southern Nevada Water Authority with reasonable access to project facilities across Federal lands.

The Secretary of the Interior has responsibility for protecting and managing the Lake Mead National Recreation area, and I would expect the Secretary's participation in negotiations involving rights of way over Federal lands which provide ample opportunities to ensure that those resources are fully protected.

Madam Speaker, I would like to say that I want to commend the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. GIBBONS), my good friend, and the good senator from Nevada for his bipartisan support of this legislation, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. GIBBONS), the author of the House companion bill to S. 986.

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Madam Speaker, I am pleased today to rise in support of S. 986, the Griffith Project Prepayment and Conveyance Act.

Madam Speaker, I would like to thank my friend and colleague, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) for yielding me the time with which to speak and to thank the chairman of the committee, the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentleman from California (Mr. DOOLITTLE) for their leadership and assistance with this bill and also to thank my friend and colleague, the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) for his courtesies and assistance in this bill as well.

The Griffith Project, formerly known as the Southern Nevada Project, was first authorized in 1965, and directed to Secretary of Interior to construct, operate and maintain the project in order to deliver water to Clark County, Nevada.

With the phenomenal growth of the Las Vegas Valley over the past several decades, and the associated need for additional water, the Griffith Project has become but a small part of the overall system used to deliver water to the Las Vegas metropolitan area.

With the strong support of the State and local government to increase and improve the water delivery and treatment system for the Las Vegas Valley, it is projected that the federally funded share of the overall system will decrease to approximately 6 percent when completed.

The time has come, Madam Speaker, for the title of the Griffith Project to be transferred to the local ownership, and this is the goal of S. 986. S. 986 will convey to the Southern Nevada Water Authority all right, title and interest of the United States in and to the Griffith Project.

This conveyance is subject to the payment by the Southern Nevada Water Authority of the net present value of the remaining repayment obligation.

This repayment obligation will be determined under financial terms and conditions that are similar to other title transfer laws which have been enacted on other projects.

The repayment obligation will also be governed by the guidance from the Department of Interior and the office of Management and Budget. This conveyance will simplify the overall operation of the system for the Southern Nevada Water Authority by removing some of the duplicative efforts required by having dual owners.

For example, a pump station in the Griffith Project portion of the system requires repairs or maintenance, then Project employees must notify the Bureau of Reclamation that a repair is needed.

Madam Speaker, then they must describe the exact nature of the work to be performed, obtain permission for a crew to perform the work and schedule the work to be done at such a time when the Bureau of Reclamation employees can be present just to watch or oversee the repair or maintenance being performed by the Project employees.

When the Project work is completed, the Bureau of Reclamation then sends a local bill to the water authority for the time spent by its personnel simply watching the work being done by the Project employees.

Madam Speaker, we should note that this could be as simple as replacing just a valve handle, even though there are no leaks or any technical problems with the system. Truly, Madam Speaker, this is a tremendous waste of Bureau of Reclamation time and an unnecessary and expensive cost burden for the people of Las Vegas.

In summary, this is a rather straightforward bill which will result in a much simplified and improved operation of the water supply and treatment facility for the Las Vegas Valley.

Madam Speaker, I, along with the senior Senator from Nevada, have worked with the Bureau of Reclamation to resolve their concerns, and we believe this is the right approach for Southern Nevada.

I do understand the right of way issues that remain and will work with the administration and those concerned with that right of way issue to resolve those problems, and I would ask my colleagues to support this bipartisan bill and pass S. 986.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I have no additional speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time as well.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 986.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

1500

SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING VIETNAMESE AMERICANS AND OTHERS WHO SEEK TO IMPROVE SOCIAL AND POLITICAL CONDITIONS IN VIETNAM

Mr. BEREUTER. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 322) expressing the sense of the Congress regarding Vietnamese Americans and others who seek to improve social and political conditions in Vietnam, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 322

Whereas the Armed Forces of the United States and the Armed Forces of the Republic of Vietnam fought together for the causes of freedom and democracy in the former Republic of Vietnam;

Whereas the Armed forces of the Republic of Vietnam suffered enormous casualties, including over 250,000 deaths and more than 750,000 wounded between 1961 and 1975 for the cause of freedom;

Whereas many officers and enlisted personnel suffered imprisonment and forcible reeducation at the direction of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam;

Whereas on June 19 of each year, the Vietnamese American community traditionally commemorates those who gave their lives in the struggle to preserve the freedom of the former Republic of Vietnam;

Whereas June 19 serves as a reminder to Vietnamese Americans that the ideals and values of democracy are precious and should be treasured; and

Whereas the Vietnamese American community plays a critical role in raising international awareness of human rights concerns regarding the Socialist Republic of Vietnam: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress—

(1) commends the sacrifices of those who served in the Armed Forces of the Republic of Vietnam; and

(2) applauds the contributions of all individuals whose efforts have focused, and continue to focus, international attention on human rights violations in Vietnam.

Amend the title so as to read: "Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding the sacrifices of individuals who served in the Armed Forces of the former Republic of Vietnam."

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) and the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BEREUTER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H. Con. Res. 322.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Nebraska?

There was no objection.

Mr. BEREUTER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. BEREUTER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks, and include extraneous material.)

Mr. BEREUTER. Madam Speaker, this Member rises in strong support of H. Con. Res. 322, a resolution that recognizes the sacrifices made by Vietnamese Americans who served in the armed forces of the former Republic of Vietnam. This Member congratulates the efforts of the distinguished gentleman from Virginia (Mr. DAVIS) to recognize the Vietnamese who fought bravely side by side with U.S. forces in Vietnam and to applaud all those whose efforts focus international attention on human rights violations in Vietnam. This Member is pleased to be a cosponsor of the legislation.

Each year on June 19, the Vietnamese-American community traditionally commemorates those who gave their lives in the struggle to preserve the freedom of the former Republic of Vietnam. During the war, the armed forces of the Republic of Vietnam suffered enormous casualties including over 250,000 killed and more than 750,000 wounded. They continued to suffer after the fighting ended when many were imprisoned and forced to undergo so-called reeducation. They continue their efforts even now playing an important role in raising international awareness of human rights violations in the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Moreover, Vietnamese Americans, many of whom arrived as refugees with little but the clothes on their backs, have made tremendous achievements and have contributed greatly to this country.

Earlier this year, this body approved H. Con. Res. 295 on Human Rights and Political Oppression in Vietnam. There

was inevitably some duplication in the two initiatives. Therefore this Member, with the concurrence of the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. DAVIS), the sponsor of the resolution, amended H. Con. Res. 322 only to eliminate duplication. The resolution now focuses on commemorating the service and sacrifices of the former members of the armed forces of the Republic of Vietnam.

This Member urges all his colleagues to support this laudable resolution.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I would like to strongly urge my colleagues to support this legislation. I certainly want to commend the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN), the chairman of our committee, for bringing this resolution to the floor. I also want to commend the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER), the chairman of the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, for making the proper changes to this resolution that is now before us.

Madam Speaker, while Vietnam has made a bit of progress in the past few years in opening up its society, we need to maintain pressure on the Vietnamese government to move more aggressively towards democracy.

This resolution recognizes the important role that the more than 1 million Vietnamese Americans in our nation play in raising the awareness of the Vietnam human rights record.

The resolution also recognizes the sacrifices made by the armed forces of the United States and the former Republic of Vietnam in fighting to bring democracy and freedom to that nation. We are right to get the Congress on record on all of these issues.

I want to note also, Madam Speaker, the tremendous contributions 1 million Vietnamese Americans make to the betterment of our Nation becoming mainstream Americans. They are such an industrious people in education, business, and all walks of life. I want to commend the 1 million Vietnamese Americans that we have who are members of our Nation.

Yet with all this, I think we can also recognize that their hearts are still with the mother country, hopefully, in some way, and somehow that the greater sense of democracy will come about with the current administration of Vietnam in that country.

Madam Speaker, I do urge my colleagues to support this resolution. Again, I thank the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) for managing this legislation on the floor.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BEREUTER. Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to yield such time as he may consume to the distinguished gen-

tleman from California (Mr. BILBRAY), who has followed Vietnamese-American relations very carefully and has a direct knowledge of the contributions of the Vietnamese-American community to this country in his part of the Nation.

Mr. BILBRAY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Con. Res. 322. I want to publicly thank the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. DAVIS) and the gentleman from New York (Chairman GILMAN), but most importantly, because he is here today, the gentleman from Nebraska (Chairman BEREUTER) for allowing this resolution to come to the floor.

Madam Speaker, many of us from all over the country know about the problems and the trials and tribulations of individuals who immigrated to this country from the Republic of Vietnam.

I think that it's appropriate to repeat why so many Vietnamese fought and died for freedom and democracy in their country. Over 250,000 Vietnamese from the Republic of Vietnam died in this struggle. Let me say this sincerely, they not only died for themselves, but also in the struggle against tyrannies, against oppression.

Frankly, I think too often we talk about a lot of inconsequential issues, but we need to remember that there is a long black wall down at the other end of the Mall. Many Americans and Vietnamese Americans walk that wall and trace out names. I think too often that, when we talk about that long black wall, we think about it as something that is in the past, something that is over, something that somebody else did or another generation did.

Madam Speaker, I am here to remind us all that the war may be over; but the struggle for what that wall symbolizes, the struggle for what the Vietnamese people in the Republic of Vietnam were fighting for, the struggle for what American men and women fought and died for is still going on today.

There are still individuals in Vietnam who are being tagged as "hard core", and who are in reeducation facilities. Now I think we all know what kind of catch word "reeducation" means. It basically means, if one does not think like the government, the government will teach one how to rethink so one thinks only their way.

Madam Speaker, I think that, as we address this resolution today, we should commit ourselves to the fact that the men and women that are symbolized on our wall at the other end of the Mall and the men and women who died from the Republic of Vietnam will be remembered by our constant quest to make sure that this struggle for freedom does continue.

I want to say, though, too, I guess too often we talk about "hyphenated Americans", and maybe being a son of a so-called "hyphenated American", I am always reminded that we are really not talking about Vietnamese. We are talking about Americans who came from Vietnam. We are talking about

people that have made, not only a great struggle in Vietnam fighting Communism, but also a great struggle and great success at becoming new Americans, at becoming what this country has always promised the rest of the world: that if one works hard, one studies hard, one strives to do their best, if one is willing to make a contribution to this free society, this free society will reward one through one's own sweat of one's own brow.

I think that we all need to remind ourselves that these immigrants who came from the Republic of Vietnam, and as an example to all of us no matter what our race, what our creed, what our gender, that there still is the opportunity for those who are willing to work hard, to strive, and to contribute.

In closing, in San Diego County, we have a very large population of individuals who emigrated from the Republic of Vietnam, and their children now are as American as anyone who has been here for 200, 300 years. I am very proud that, when I go to review ROTC units, when we see the military young men and women lining up in San Diego, we will see the sons and the daughters of men and women who fought for their homeland and emigrated from the Republic of Vietnam in the worst of circumstances, but have learned the best of lessons both from their country of the past and their newly adopted country of the future.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I also want to compliment the gentleman from California (Mr. BILBRAY) for his comments on this piece of legislation.

I should also note the fact that 58,000 American lives were lost in that terrible conflict. I think, if we are to assess what lesson our Nation has learned from Vietnam, I can say that, if we are ever to commit our men and women in uniform to engage in a war against enemy forces, our Nation's political and military leaders must all be committed to one purpose and one purpose only, and that is to win the war, nothing less, nothing more.

There is no such thing as a half-baked war, Madam Speaker. We are there to win, or do not waste the resources or the valuable blood of the men and women in uniform. That is probably the lesson I learned from Vietnam, Madam Speaker.

I think more important, in essence, is the fact we have 1 million Vietnamese Americans who believe in democracy, who believe in our form of government, who believe in the system where everybody is given better treatment, that no one is above the law. That is what America is about.

I want to commend again the many Vietnamese Americans who have made tremendous sacrifice, not only for their country, but their willingness to come here and make tremendous contributions for the betterment of our own Nation.

Again, I want to thank the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) for managing this piece of legislation.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BEREUTER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) for his insightful statement. As a Vietnam-era veteran, I certainly appreciate the wisdom of what he has just said regarding appropriate foreign and security policy.

I would also like to compliment the distinguished gentleman from California (Mr. BILBRAY) for his insightful statement, very much focused on the many contributions that Vietnamese, who happen now to be American citizens, are making to this country and to all of those who are striving for citizenship.

Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE), vice chairman of the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific.

Madam Speaker, I have on two occasions seen the rapport and the attention that the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) gives to Asians who are living in his district, immigrants, refugees, and to those many who have become citizens actively participating in the economy and the politics of California.

Mr. ROYCE. Madam Speaker, the gentleman from Nebraska (Chairman BEREUTER) is the author of this particular legislation, of this approach, of which I am a cosponsor. I want to thank him for introducing this bill.

It is important that we honor those in the Armed Forces in the United States and in the armed forces of the Republic of Vietnam who fought together. These brave individuals risked their lives for liberty, and their actions should be honored 25 years now after the fall of Saigon. We must remember their deeds while working for increased political and economic freedom in the socialist Republic of Vietnam.

I recently visited Vietnam. During my trip there, I paid a visit to the Venerable Thich Quang Do, who is the 72-year-old leader of the banned Unified Buddhist Church of Vietnam.

Because of his peaceful protests, those protests that he engaged in in support of political freedom and religious freedom, Thich Quang Do has been imprisoned and exiled. Even though he was under surveillance, Thich Quang Do welcomed my visit.

My private visits to him and Le Quang Liem, another dissident, were quickly denounced by the government. It is obvious the Vietnamese government is sensitive to international criticism. This obligates the United States to speak out constantly against the Vietnamese government's human rights violations. We may not always realize it, but protests by the American government and by the American people

do help the cause of freedom in Vietnam. Silence is no alternative.

This international criticism has come about in large part due to the tireless work of the Vietnamese-American communities. Their efforts to raise awareness about human rights and about the violations of basic freedoms of Vietnam have a critical, critical effect.

It is imperative that we continue pressuring for increased openness in Vietnam. A two-track policy of engaging the Vietnamese government on economic reform on one hand while pressuring it on its political and religious repression, that approach requires diplomatic finesse. But if done right, it promises to bring long-sought freedom to the Vietnamese people, freedom for which many Americans have sacrificed.

I want to commend the gentleman from Nebraska (Chairman BEREUTER) for his authorship of this two-pronged approach. We all hope that it is successful in engaging and changing Vietnam.

1515

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BEREUTER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to compliment the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE), who just spoke, for focusing on the policy implications and the direction that we should take in our relationship with the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. Certainly all of us want to work closely with our distinguished former colleague, Ambassador Pete Peterson, and we have been doing that on a variety of programs and votes in this effort here.

We would hope that our policies and actions regarding the government of Vietnam might bring some better results. We have at the current time trade negotiations ongoing in this city, and we hope that, in fact, the kind of response from the Vietnamese will be forthcoming and will result in a better human rights record in Vietnam and an opportunity, therefore, to improve our relationship with that country.

I thank my colleague for his outstanding statement, I thank the gentleman from American Samoa for his role, and I particularly wish to thank my staff director from the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, Mike Ennis, for his outstanding work in this effort, in working with the staff of the distinguished gentleman from Virginia (Mr. DAVIS).

Madam Speaker, I urge support of the resolution.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this resolution commending the Vietnamese American Community for its work in bringing democratic principles and practices to the people of Vietnam. Social equality is the backbone of the American government and a fundamental principle in every democratic government.

As the leading democratic country in the world, the United States should take care to

applaud the efforts of all people who have worked to spread democracy throughout the earth including the contributions of the Vietnamese American people.

After the fall of Saigon, the Vietnam's government punished those Vietnamese who had allied with the U.S. North Vietnam forces placed hundreds of thousands of southerners in prisons, re-education camps and economic zones in efforts to remove subversion and to consolidate the country.

The Communists created a society of suspicion that hounded prisoners even after their release. The men were treated as second class citizens. Families were deprived of employment and their children could not attend college. Police interrogated families if ex-prisoners were not seen for more than a day.

Prisoners were considered expendable, worked to death and forced to walk in rows down old minefields to find out where they were. Daughters of South Vietnamese military men were sometimes forced by destitution to become prostitutes.

The re-education camps remained the predominant devise of social control in the late 1980s. Considered to be institutions where rehabilitation was accomplished through education and socially constructive labor, the camps were used to incarcerate members of certain social classes in order to coerce them to accept and conform to the new social norms.

Sources say that up to 200,000 South Vietnamese spent at least a year in the camps, which range from model institutions visited by foreigners to remote jungle shacks where inmates died of malnutrition and disease. As late as 1987, Vietnamese officials stated that about 7,000 people remained in re-education camps.

The first wave of refugees, in 1975, had no established Vietnamese American communities to rely upon for help. Assistance came from government programs, private individuals, nonprofit organizations and churches. Vietnamese men who held high positions in their homeland took whatever jobs they could get. Vietnamese woman became full-time wage earners, often for the first time.

Most refugees in the first wave were young, well-educated urban elites, professionals and people with technical training. Despite the fact that many first wave arrivals were from privileged backgrounds, few were well prepared to take up new life in America. The majority did not speak English and all found themselves in the midst of a strange culture.

The refugees who arrived in the US often suffered traumatic experiences while escaping Vietnam by sea. Those caught escaping after the fall of Saigon, including children, were jailed. Almost every Vietnamese American family has a member who arrived as a refugee or who died en route.

Many Vietnamese Americans still refuse to accept the current communist government of their former homeland. For many, the pain, anger and hatred felt toward the communist regime that forced them into exile remains fresh. Fiercely proud of their heritage, yet left without a homeland, many Vietnamese Americans have vowed never to acknowledge that Vietnam is now one communist country.

The story of Le Van Me and wife Sen is a typical one of many refugees. Me was a lieutenant colonel in the South Vietnamese Army when they came to the U.S. They spent time

in a refugee camp in Fort Chaffee, Arkansas, until the government found a church in Warsaw, Missouri, to sponsor them. In the small rural town, Me worked as a janitor for the church and all the parishioners helped the family in any way they could—giving them clothes, canned preserves, even working together to renovate a house where the family could live.

Me took classes at the community college. After 11 months, the family moved to California, drawn by the jobs rumored to be there. Me got a job as an electronic technician and started attending a neighborhood community college again. Sen was determined not to use food stamps for longer than two weeks. Within three years, they bought a three bedroom house in north San Jose. As Me explained "You really don't know what freedom is until you nearly die fighting for it."

Saigon fell 25 years ago, but the memories are still raw for many Vietnamese people. The exodus from Vietnam since 1975 has created a generation of exiles. The efforts of everyone, especially Vietnamese-Americans, to bring democracy must be recognized. We should hesitate no longer to make it known that the United States Congress proudly recognizes these efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I urge each of my colleagues to support this Resolution.

Mr. GILMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of House Concurrent Resolution 322 expressing the sense of Congress regarding the sacrifices of individuals who served in the Armed Forces of the former Republic of Vietnam.

I want to thank the gentleman from Virginia, Mr. DAVIS, for introducing this resolution and for his continuing commitment to human rights and democracy in Vietnam.

I want to thank the chairman of the Asia-Pacific Subcommittee, Mr. BEREUTER, for his work in crafting the final language in this measure.

Madam Speaker, it is unfortunate that 10 years after the end of the cold war, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam is still a one-party state ruled and controlled by a Communist Party which represses political and religious freedoms and commits numerous human rights abuses.

It is appropriate that we recognize those who fought to oppose this tyranny which has fallen across Vietnam and those who continue the vigil of struggling for freedom and democracy there today.

Accordingly, I urge Hanoi to cease its violations of human rights and to undertake the long-overdue liberalization of its moribund and stifling political and economic system. The people of Vietnam clearly deserve better.

Finally, I call upon the Vietnamese government to do all it can—unilaterally—to assist in bringing our POW/MIAs home to American soil.

I want to praise this resolution for pointing out the injustice that tragically exists in Vietnam today and those who have—and are—still opposing it.

Once again I want to commend Mr. DAVIS for introducing this resolution and his abiding dedication to improving the lives of the people of Vietnam.

I am proud to be a cosponsor of this measure and I strongly urge my colleagues to support it and send a strong signal to Hanoi that it is time to free the minds and spirits of the Vietnamese people.

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of House Concurrent Resolution 322, which honors the wonderful contributions of our nation's Vietnamese-Americans in raising awareness of human rights abuses in Vietnam. I thank my colleagues Mr. DAVIS and Ms. SANCHEZ for their hard work on this issue. I am proud to be an original cosponsor of this important resolution, and urge my colleagues' overwhelming support today.

I represent San Jose, California, a community greatly enriched by the presence of immigrants. Quite a few of my constituents came to San Jose as refugees, escaping the brutal and oppressive political regime in Hanoi. I worked with those refugees as a Santa Clara County Supervisor, and many of those people have become my friends throughout the years. I believe that they have a unique perspective on the state of our country's relationship with Vietnam that is of immense value.

A quarter century after the fall of Saigon, the Communist government continues to oppress its citizens and violate their basic human rights. Stories of political repression, religious persecutions and extra-judicial detentions are all too common. Many Vietnamese-Americans have worked tirelessly to bring these violations to light, here in the United States and to the international community. As a result of their extraordinary dedication, awareness of the abuses of the Vietnamese government is growing exponentially.

I applaud their continued effort to bring democratic ideals and practices to Vietnam. This resolution is a small token of our gratitude for the hard work of the 1 million Vietnamese-Americans living in our country. I am proud to support it.

Mr. BEREUTER. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 322, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

The title of the concurrent resolution was amended so as to read: "Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding the sacrifices of individuals who served in the Armed Forces of the former Republic of Vietnam."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 4 p.m.

Accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 16 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 4 p.m.

1600

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro

tempore (Mr. KNOLLENBERG) at 4 o'clock and one minute p.m.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks during further consideration of H.R. 4461, and that I may include tabular and extraneous material.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Mexico?

There was no objection.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2001

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 538 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 4461.

1602

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 4461) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes, with Mr. NUSSLE in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. When the Committee of the Whole House rose on Thursday, June 29, 2000, the bill was open for amendment from page 57, line 12, to page 58, line 8.

Are there further amendments to that portion of the bill?

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

Mr. Chairman, I rise to engage in a series of discussions with the distinguished gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. SKEEN).

Mr. Chairman, as we know, the Senate bill provides direct payments to dairy farmers estimated at \$443 million to offset the record low prices we have seen for much of the past year.

I would simply ask the chairman if he would be willing to work with me to ensure that direct payments for dairy farmers are included in the bill when it emerges from conference.

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. OBEY. I yield to the gentleman from New Mexico.

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Chairman, I would be pleased to work with the gentleman from Wisconsin. I find that we agree more often than not on the specifics of dairy policy, and would point to the last 2 years of economic assistance payments we have jointly inserted into

the agriculture appropriations conference report as proof.

Accordingly, I will be pleased to carry out our tradition of working together on dairy producer assistance, when and if we ever get to conference.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman.

Let me turn to another subject, that of ultrafiltered milk. It seems there is always some new issue popping up in the dairy area. There are growing fears about the damaging impact on domestic dairy producers from imports of dry ultrafiltered or UF milk.

Ultrafiltration is an important technology widely used in cheese plants for about 15 years to remove water, lactose, and minerals and allow manufacturers to manipulate the ingredients in cheese to arrive at the desired finished product.

The use of liquid UF milk from another location has been approved by FDA on a case-by-case basis, but there is another problem. The problem is the threat of unlimited imports of dry UF milk from places like New Zealand following a petition to FDA earlier this year by the National Cheese Institute to change the standards of identity for cheese.

I understand that there are no quotas or tariffs on this product, which is currently used in bakery mixes, ice cream, and other products that do not have the strict standards of identity that cheese has. There have also been newspaper reports suggesting that dry UF milk is already being imported for use in American cheese plants, in violation of FDA regulations.

We need to know what the facts are so we can develop an appropriate response. At a minimum, we need to understand first how much UF milk is coming into the country and what it is used for. I would ask the chairman of the subcommittee if he would be willing to work with us to get answers to those questions through the GAO and other sources.

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Chairman, I, too, have an interest in ultrafiltered milk. I believe it is prudent to have empirical facts in order to understand the specifics of a somewhat muddled portion of the dairy production and cheese-making process.

I would offer to the gentleman that we will jointly direct either the GAO or the committee S&I staff to conduct a factual investigation into how much UF milk is produced in this country and how much is being imported and what it is used for. At that time, and with the facts on our side, I am confident that we will be able to address the issue in an intelligent and productive manner.

Mr. OBEY. I thank the gentleman.

Now I would like to turn to another subject, Mr. Chairman. That is the Dairy Export Incentive Program.

I am concerned that the USDA is not being aggressive enough in encouraging dairy exports through the Dairy Export Incentive Program, or DEIP, which al-

lows us to compete in world markets with highly subsidized exports in the European Union.

About 10 percent of DEIP contracts are apparently canceled, I understand due mainly to price undercutting by our competitors. For whatever the reason, we apparently have about 40,000 metric tons of canceled nonfat dry milk contracts dating back to June of 1995. This canceled tonnage can be reprogrammed for export by allowing exporters to rebid for them, but the Foreign Agricultural Service appears reluctant to do that, perhaps fearing that it may be taken to the WTO court by the European Union.

Mr. Chairman, as we know, DEIP saves money. It is cheaper to export surplus nonfat dry milk than it is for USDA to buy it and store it. Removing this product from the domestic market would have a beneficial impact on dairy prices. As such, again, I would ask the chair of the subcommittee to help me convince USDA to propose a solution to resolve the problem by the time we have reached conference on this bill, one that might include establishing a procedure for automatic rebidding of canceled tonnage.

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Chairman, again, I would be pleased to work with the gentleman to address his concerns, as they are shared by myself and many others. It seems the administration has been entirely too willing to roll over to our competitors without looking to the interests of America's farmers and ranchers first, and anything we can do to reverse the trend will be a step forward.

Mr. OBEY. I thank the chairman.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to raise the question of cranberries.

The CHAIRMAN. The time of the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) has expired.

(By unanimous consent, Mr. OBEY was allowed to proceed for 4 additional minutes.)

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, with respect to that product, cranberry growers, as we know, like all farmers today, it seems they are in dire straits due to overproduction, massive overproduction and lower prices. It costs about \$35 per barrel to produce cranberries. Some growers in my district are getting as little as \$9 or \$10 a barrel for their crop.

The USDA recently announced its support for industry-proposed volume controls that are desperately needed to get a handle on overproduction. That is part of the solution, but will add to the farm income problems those cranberry growers are facing, so it seems to me we have to look for more things that can be done.

Another part of the solution might be for USDA to purchase surplus products. USDA has been very responsive so far looking for opportunities to purchase surplus product, but much more needs to be done if we are to restore balance to supply and demand.

As we know, cranberries are among the specialty crops eligible for purchase by the Secretary, with \$200 million provided from the recently-passed crop insurance bill.

Would the chairman work with me to urge USDA to aggressively use the authority it has to purchase surplus cranberry products in a way that will make a significant difference to the industry?

Mr. SKEEN. If the gentleman will yield further, I will be glad to work with the gentleman towards that end.

Mr. OBEY. I would also appreciate it if the chairman would also help us to explore the possibility of helping growers through the current difficult times with direct payments.

The Cranberry Industry estimates that \$20 million will improve income by about \$3 to \$4 per barrel for each grower. This bill already includes \$100 million direct assistance to apple and potato growers. We have helped pork farmers, dairy farmers, wheat, corn, cotton, rice, oilseeds, and many others.

Would the chairman of the subcommittee be willing to work with me to ensure that America's cranberry growers receive the same kind of consideration in this respect that many other farmers have received?

Mr. SKEEN. If the gentleman will continue to yield, again, I would be very happy to work with the gentleman, as I, too, believe that specialty crops do not receive the support and attention that they deserve. Cranberries would definitely fall into that category.

Mr. OBEY. I thank the chairman, and I appreciate his consideration.

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

Mr. Chairman, recently I introduced H.R. 4652, the Quality Cheese Act of 2000. This bipartisan bill would prohibit the FDA from allowing the use of dry ultrafiltered milk in the making of natural cheese.

My reason for introducing the bill was simple. Dry ultrafiltered milk, which is a milk derivative, can come in the United States virtually duty-free. It can take the place of domestically produced milk in cheese vats and the consumer cannot tell the difference. Using imported dry ultrafiltered milk would also undercut our domestic dairy farmers' market for their milk. My Wisconsin dairy farmers are already receiving the lowest price for their milk in over 20 years. We cannot allow their market to be further eroded.

There have been reports in farm publications that there are large volumes of dry ultrafiltered milk currently being imported. That is perfectly legal, but we do not know what the dry ultrafiltered milk is being used for. If this dry ultrafiltered milk is being used in natural cheese-making, it is being used illegally, to the detriment of consumers and the dairy farmers I represent.

It is my hope that the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. SKEEN), the dis-

tinguished chairman of the Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations, will work with myself and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) to find an answer to this important question.

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Chairman, will the gentlewoman yield?

Ms. BALDWIN. I yield to the gentleman from New Mexico.

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Chairman, as the gentlewoman knows, I also have an interest in ultrafiltered milk, as I recently discussed with the gentlewoman's colleague, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY). I believe it is wise to understand the specifics of a somewhat muddled segment of the dairy production and cheese-making production.

Accordingly, we have to agree to jointly direct either the GAO or the subcommittee's S&I staff to conduct a factual investigation into how much UF milk is produced in this country and how much is being imported and what it is used for, and at that time, with the facts on our side, I am confident that we will be able to address the issue in an intelligent and productive manner.

I appreciate the gentlewoman's concerns, and look forward to working with her on behalf of the Nation's dairy industry.

Ms. BALDWIN. I thank the gentleman, Mr. Chairman.

AMENDMENT NO. 38 OFFERED BY MR. BROWN OF OHIO

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 38 offered by Mr. BROWN of Ohio:

Page 58, line 4, insert after the colon the following: "Provided further, That \$3,000,000 may be for activities carried out pursuant to section 512 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to new animal drugs, in addition to the amounts otherwise available under this heading for such activities:".

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Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Chairman, this amendment concerns antibiotic resistance from the use of antibiotics in livestock.

I would like to start with a story. Imagine your 7-year-old daughter is very sick from food poisoning. You take her to the hospital and antibiotics do not help. In a week, she dies a painful death. The autopsy shows that her body is riddled with *E. coli* bacteria which ate away at her organs from her brain down. This is a true story, and it happened to a family in northeast Ohio 2 years ago.

We thought we were winning the war against infectious diseases. With the introduction of antibiotics in the 1940s, humans gained an overwhelming advantage in the fight against bacteria

that cause infectious diseases, but the war is not over.

Mr. Chairman, 2 weeks ago, the World Health Organization issued a ringing warning against antibiotic resistance. Around the world, microbes are mutating at an alarming rate into the new strains that fail to respond to drugs.

Dr. Marcos Espinal of the World Health Organization said, "we already have lost some of the current good antibiotics, streptomycin for TB; it's almost lost. Chloroquin for malaria, it's lost; penicillin, nobody uses it now; if we keep the same pace, we will be losing other potent and powerful drugs. So a window of opportunity is closing, and I would say if we don't act now, in 5 to 10 years, we will have a major crisis"; words from the World Health Organization.

We need to develop, Mr. Chairman, new antibiotics but it is too soon obviously to give up on the ones we have. By using antibiotics and antimicrobials more wisely and more sparingly, we can slow down antibiotic resistance.

We need to change the way drugs are given to people to be sure, but we also need to look at the way drugs are given to animals. According to the WHO, 50 percent of all antibiotics are used in agriculture, both for animals and for plants. In the U.S., livestock producers use drugs to treat sick herds and flocks legitimately. They also feed a steady diet of antibiotics for healthy livestock so they will gain weight more quickly and be ready for market sooner.

Many of these drugs are the same ones used to treat infections in people, including tetracycline. Prolonged exposure to antibiotics in farm animals provide a breeding ground science tells us for resistance strains of *E. coli*, salmonella and other bacteria harmful to humans. When transferred to people through food, it can cause dangerous infections.

Last week, an interagency task force issued a draft Public Health Action Plan to combat antimicrobial resistance. The plan provides a blueprint for specific, coordinated Federal actions. A top priority action item in the draft plan highlights work already underway at the Food and Drug Administration's Center for Veterinary Medicine.

In December of 1998, the FDA issued a proposed framework for evaluating and regulating new animal drugs in light of their contribution to antibiotic resistance in humans. The agency proposes to evaluate the drugs on the basis of their importance in human medicine and the potential exposure of humans to resistant bacteria that come from animals.

Mr. Chairman, this amendment would direct \$3 million toward the Center for Veterinary Medicine's work on antibiotic resistance related to animal drugs. CVM Director Sundloff has stated that antibiotic resistance is the Center's top priority. However, the framework document states the agency

will look first at approvals for new animal drugs and will look at drugs already in use in animals as time and resources permit.

We think an additional \$3 million would give a significant boost to the ability of the Center for Veterinary Medicine to move forward on antibiotic resistance. Our amendment directs FDA to shift these funds from within the agency, while leaving the decision on the sources of the offset to the agency itself.

Please note the Committee on Appropriations, Mr. Chairman, has recommended a \$53 million budget increase for FDA. Given this increase, we believe the agency can free up \$3 million of that increase for its work on antibiotic resistance without harming other programs.

Mr. Chairman, I ask for his support, and ask for support of Members of the House for this amendment. The lives of our young children and our elderly parents, the people most vulnerable to food-borne illness, may be at stake.

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

Mr. Chairman, it provides an additional \$3 million for a particular FDA activity, presumably to be funded at the expense of other FDA priorities.

I understand the forthright interest of the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) in this situation and what the gentleman wants to do. The committee has fully funded the President's fiscal year 2001 budget request for new animal drug review, as can be seen on page 60 of the committee report on this bill.

The President requested \$62,761,000 for the animal drugs and feeds program, an increase of \$14,048,000 over fiscal year 2000. The committee fully funded the administration's request, which is a generous 22 percent increase.

Since the request was fully funded, I oppose the amendment and urge my colleagues to do the same. Please vote no on the amendment.

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word and rise to support the Brown amendment to increase the antibiotic resistance funding by \$3 million. Earlier this month, the World Health Organization issued a strong warning against antibiotic resistance.

If I may quote from the WHO, they said, "the world may only have a decade or two to make optimal use of many of the medicines presently available to stop infectious diseases. We are literally in a race against time to bring levels of infectious disease down worldwide before the disease wears the drugs down first"; that is by Mr. David Heymann, executive director of the World Health Organization's communicable disease program.

Mr. Chairman, while many factors contribute to antibiotic resistance, an important cause is the overuse of antibiotics in livestock, both for treating disease and promoting faster growth. Many livestock receive a steady diet of antibiotics that are used in human medicine, especially tetracycline and penicillin.

Antibiotic-resistant microbes are then transferred from animals to humans primarily in food, causing infection from salmonella and E. coli that are difficult or impossible to treat.

Children and the elderly are most at risk for serious illness or death. The World Health Organization recommends reducing antibiotic use in animals to protect our own human health.

The Food and Drug Administration's Center for Veterinary Medicine, CVM, is taking steps to reduce the problem of antibiotic resistance from drug use in livestock. The agency's plan primarily addresses new animal drugs and will address drugs currently in use when resources permit.

That is where the Brown amendment comes in. This amendment would increase funding for the Food and Drug Administration's Center for Veterinary Medicine by \$3 million for activities related to antibiotic resistance. Since the committee is recommending that the FDA receive an increase of \$53 million, the Brown amendment would simply direct the agency to allocate an additional \$3 million from the \$53 million for this very important work.

Mr. Chairman, I would urge my colleagues, both Democrats and Republicans, to support the Brown amendment and this very important program.

Mr. BOYD. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the requisite number of words, and I rise in support of the Brown amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to bring to the attention of the gentleman from New Mexico (Chairman SKEEN) and the body that this certainly has been described as a very serious issue in America today. I appreciate the opposition of the gentleman from New Mexico (Chairman SKEEN) to it on the basis of the funding. We do not know exactly where the funding is coming from, and I also understand that this is an issue that was not brought to the attention of the committee or subcommittee prior to today for increased funding.

I would like to let the body know that there is some funding in the food safety initiative and the FDA has the jurisdiction, or the responsibility, of looking at these kinds of issues and monitoring this, and we are absolutely not doing a sufficient job. I think that we do need some additional resources and efforts in this area.

I would encourage, Mr. Chairman, the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. SKEEN) to try to work with us to see if we could not find some additional funding as we move into conference, but I would like to support the amendment of the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN).

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN).

The amendment was agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

In addition, mammography user fees authorized by 42 U.S.C. 263(b) may be credited

to this account, to remain available until expended.

In addition, export certification user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 381, as amended, may be credited to this account, to remain available until expended.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

For plans, construction, repair, improvement, extension, alteration, and purchase of fixed equipment or facilities of or used by the Food and Drug Administration, where not otherwise provided, \$11,350,000, to remain available until expended (7 U.S.C. 2209b).

INDEPENDENT AGENCIES

COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of the Commodity Exchange Act (7 U.S.C. 1 et seq.), including the purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles; the rental of space (to include multiple year leases) in the District of Columbia and elsewhere; and not to exceed \$25,000 for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109, \$69,000,000, including not to exceed \$2,000 for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided*, That for fiscal year 2001 and thereafter, the Commission is authorized to charge reasonable fees to attendees of Commission sponsored educational events and symposia to cover the Commission's costs of providing those events and symposia, and notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, said fees shall be credited to this account, to be available without further appropriation.

FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION

LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

Not to exceed \$36,800,000 (from assessments collected from farm credit institutions and from the Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation) shall be obligated during the current fiscal year for administrative expenses as authorized under 12 U.S.C. 2249: *Provided*, That this limitation shall not apply to expenses associated with receiverships.

TITLE VII—GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 701. Within the unit limit of cost fixed by law, appropriations and authorizations made for the Department of Agriculture for the current fiscal year under this Act shall be available for the purchase, in addition to those specifically provided for, of not to exceed 389 passenger motor vehicles, of which 385 shall be for replacement only, and for the hire of such vehicles.

SEC. 702. Funds in this Act available to the Department of Agriculture shall be available for uniforms or allowances therefor as authorized by law (5 U.S.C. 5901–5902).

SEC. 703. Not less than \$1,500,000 of the appropriations of the Department of Agriculture in this Act for research and service work authorized by sections 1 and 10 of the Act of June 29, 1935 (7 U.S.C. 427, 427i; commonly known as the Bankhead-Jones Act), subtitle A of title II and section 302 of the Act of August 14, 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1621 et seq.), and chapter 63 of title 31, United States Code, shall be available for contracting in accordance with such Acts and chapter.

SEC. 704. The Secretary may transfer funds provided under this Act and other available unobligated balances of the Department of Agriculture to the Working Capital Fund for the acquisition of plant and capital equipment necessary for the delivery of financial, administrative, and information technology services: *Provided*, That none of the funds made available by this Act or any other Act shall be transferred to the Working Capital Fund without the prior approval of the agency administrator.

SEC. 705. New obligational authority provided for the following appropriation items in this Act shall remain available until expended: Animal and Plant Health Inspection

Service, the contingency fund to meet emergency conditions, fruit fly program, integrated systems acquisition project, boll weevil program, up to 10 percent of the screwworm program, and up to \$2,000,000 for costs associated with colocating regional offices; Food Safety and Inspection Service, field automation and information management project; funds appropriated for rental payments; Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, funds for competitive research grants (7 U.S.C. 450i(b)) and funds for the Native American Institutions Endowment Fund; Farm Service Agency, salaries and expenses funds made available to county committees; Foreign Agricultural Service, middle-income country training program and up to \$2,000,000 of the Foreign Agricultural Service appropriation solely for the purpose of offsetting fluctuations in international currency exchange rates, subject to documentation by the Foreign Agricultural Service.

SEC. 706. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided herein.

SEC. 707. Not to exceed \$50,000 of the appropriations available to the Department of Agriculture in this Act shall be available to provide appropriate orientation and language training pursuant to section 606C of the Act of August 28, 1954 (7 U.S.C. 1766b; commonly known as the Agricultural Act of 1954).

SEC. 708. No funds appropriated by this Act may be used to pay negotiated indirect cost rates on cooperative agreements or similar arrangements between the United States Department of Agriculture and nonprofit institutions in excess of 10 percent of the total direct cost of the agreement when the purpose of such cooperative arrangements is to carry out programs of mutual interest between the two parties. This does not preclude appropriate payment of indirect costs on grants and contracts with such institutions when such indirect costs are computed on a similar basis for all agencies for which appropriations are provided in this Act.

SEC. 709. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, commodities acquired by the Department in connection with the Commodity Credit Corporation and section 32 price support operations may be used, as authorized by law (15 U.S.C. 714c and 7 U.S.C. 612c), to provide commodities to individuals in cases of hardship as determined by the Secretary of Agriculture.

SEC. 710. None of the funds in this Act shall be available to restrict the authority of the Commodity Credit Corporation to lease space for its own use or to lease space on behalf of other agencies of the Department of Agriculture when such space will be jointly occupied.

SEC. 711. None of the funds in this Act shall be available to pay indirect costs charged against competitive agricultural research, education, or extension grant awards issued by the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service that exceed 19 percent of total Federal funds provided under each award: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 1462 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3310), funds provided by this Act for grants awarded competitively by the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service shall be available to pay full allowable indirect costs for each grant awarded under section 9 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638).

SEC. 712. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, all loan levels provided in this Act shall be considered estimates, not limitations.

SEC. 713. Appropriations to the Department of Agriculture for the cost of direct and

guaranteed loans made available in the current fiscal year shall remain available until expended to cover obligations made in the current fiscal year for the following accounts: the rural development loan fund program account; the rural telephone bank program account; the rural electrification and telecommunications loans program account; the rural housing insurance fund program account; and the rural economic development loans program account.

SEC. 714. Such sums as may be necessary for the current fiscal year pay raises for programs funded by this Act shall be absorbed within the levels appropriated by this Act.

SEC. 715. Notwithstanding chapter 63 of title 31, United States Code, marketing services of the Agricultural Marketing Service; the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration; the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service; and the food safety activities of the Food Safety and Inspection Service may use cooperative agreements to reflect a relationship between the Agricultural Marketing Service; the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration; the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service; or the Food Safety and Inspection Service and a State or Cooperator to carry out agricultural marketing programs, to carry out programs to protect the Nation's animal and plant resources, or to carry out educational programs or special studies to improve the safety of the Nation's food supply.

SEC. 716. Notwithstanding any other provision of law (including provisions of law requiring competition), the Secretary of Agriculture may hereafter enter into cooperative agreements (which may provide for the acquisition of goods or services, including personal services) with a State, political subdivision, or agency thereof, a public or private agency, organization, or any other person, if the Secretary determines that the objectives of the agreement will: (1) serve a mutual interest of the parties to the agreement in carrying out the programs administered by the Natural Resources Conservation Service; and (2) all parties will contribute resources to the accomplishment of these objectives: *Provided*, That Commodity Credit Corporation funds obligated for such purposes shall not exceed the level obligated by the Commodity Credit Corporation for such purposes in fiscal year 1998.

SEC. 717. None of the funds in this Act may be used to retire more than 5 percent of the Class A stock of the Rural Telephone Bank or to maintain any account or subaccount within the accounting records of the Rural Telephone Bank the creation of which has not specifically been authorized by statute: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this Act may be used to transfer to the Treasury or to the Federal Financing Bank any unobligated balance of the Rural Telephone Bank telephone liquidating account which is in excess of current requirements and such balance shall receive interest as set forth for financial accounts in section 505(c) of the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990.

SEC. 718. Of the funds made available by this Act, not more than \$1,500,000 shall be used to cover necessary expenses of activities related to all advisory committees, panels, commissions, and task forces of the Department of Agriculture, except for panels used to comply with negotiated rule makings and panels used to evaluate competitively awarded grants.

SEC. 719. None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used to carry out section 410 of the Federal Meat Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 679a) or section 30 of the Poultry Products Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 471).

SEC. 720. No employee of the Department of Agriculture may be detailed or assigned from an agency or office funded by this Act to any other agency or office of the Department for more than 30 days unless the individual's employing agency or office is fully reimbursed by the receiving agency or office for the salary and expenses of the employee for the period of assignment.

SEC. 721. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available to the Department of Agriculture shall be used to transmit or otherwise make available to any non-Department of Agriculture employee questions or responses to questions that are a result of information requested for the appropriations hearing process.

SEC. 722. None of the funds made available to the Department of Agriculture by this Act may be used to acquire new information technology systems or significant upgrades, as determined by the Office of the Chief Information Officer, without the approval of the Chief Information Officer and the concurrence of the Executive Information Technology Investment Review Board: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be transferred to the Office of the Chief Information Officer without the prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

SEC. 723. (a) None of the funds provided by this Act, or provided by previous Appropriations Acts to the agencies funded by this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in the current fiscal year, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury of the United States derived by the collection of fees available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds which: (1) creates new programs; (2) eliminates a program, project, or activity; (3) increases funds or personnel by any means for any project or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted; (4) relocates an office or employees; (5) reorganizes offices, programs, or activities; or (6) contracts out or privatizes any functions or activities presently performed by Federal employees; unless the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress are notified 15 days in advance of such reprogramming of funds.

(b) None of the funds provided by this Act, or provided by previous Appropriations Acts to the agencies funded by this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in the current fiscal year, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury of the United States derived by the collection of fees available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure for activities, programs, or projects through a reprogramming of funds in excess of \$500,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less, that: (1) augments existing programs, projects, or activities; (2) reduces by 10 percent funding for any existing program, project, or activity, or numbers of personnel by 10 percent as approved by Congress; or (3) results from any general savings from a reduction in personnel which would result in a change in existing programs, activities, or projects as approved by Congress; unless the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress are notified 15 days in advance of such reprogramming of funds.

SEC. 724. With the exception of funds needed to administer and conduct oversight of grants awarded and obligations incurred prior to enactment of this Act, none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act may be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to carry out section 793 of Public Law 104-127, the Fund for Rural America (7 U.S.C. 2204f).

SEC. 725. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel who carry out an environmental quality incentives program authorized by chapter 4 of subtitle D of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa et seq.) in excess of \$174,000,000.

SEC. 726. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise available to the Department of Agriculture in the current fiscal year or thereafter may be used to administer the provision of contract payments to a producer under the Agricultural Market Transition Act (7 U.S.C. 7201 et seq.) for contract acreage on which wild rice is planted unless the contract payment is reduced by an acre for each contract acre planted to wild rice.

SEC. 727. With the exception of funds needed to administer and conduct oversight of grants awarded and obligations incurred prior to enactment of this Act, none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act may be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to carry out the provisions of section 401 of Public Law 105-185, the Initiative for Future Agriculture and Food Systems (7 U.S.C. 7621).

SEC. 728. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act shall be used to carry out any commodity purchase program that would prohibit eligibility or participation by farmer-owned cooperatives.

SEC. 729. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to carry out a conservation farm option program, as authorized by section 1240M of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839bb).

SEC. 730. None of the funds made available by this Act or any other Act for any fiscal year may be used to carry out section 203(h) of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1622(h)) unless the Secretary of Agriculture inspects and certifies agricultural processing equipment, and imposes a fee for the inspection and certification, in a manner that is similar to the inspection and certification of agricultural products under that section, as determined by the Secretary: *Provided*, That this provision shall not affect the authority of the Secretary to carry out the Federal Meat Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 601 et seq.), the Poultry Products Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 451 et seq.), or the Egg Products Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 1031 et seq.).

SEC. 731. None of the funds appropriated by this Act or any other Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel who prepare or submit appropriations language as part of the President's Budget submission to the Congress of the United States for programs under the jurisdiction of the Appropriations Subcommittees on Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies that assumes revenues or reflects a reduction from the previous year due to user fees proposals that have not been enacted into law prior to the submission of the Budget unless such Budget submission identifies which additional spending reductions should occur in the event the user fees proposals are not enacted prior to the date of the convening of a committee of conference for the fiscal year 2002 appropriations Act.

SEC. 732. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act shall be used to carry out a Community Food Security program or any similar activity within the United States Department of Agriculture without the prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

SEC. 733. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any

other Act may be used to carry out provision of section 612 of Public Law 105-185.

Mr. SKEEN (during the reading). Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent that the remainder of title VII through page 72, line 4 be considered as read, printed in the RECORD, and open to amendment at any point.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Mexico?

There was no objection.

The CHAIRMAN. Are there any amendments to this portion of the bill? If not, the Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

SEC. 734. Hereafter no funds shall be used for the Kyoto Protocol, including such Kyoto mechanisms as carbon emissions trading schemes and the Clean Development Mechanism that are found solely in the Kyoto Protocol and nowhere in the laws of the United States.

AMENDMENT NO. 58 OFFERED BY MR. KNOLLENBERG

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 58 offered by Mr. KNOLLENBERG:

Page 72, line 5, strike Section 734 and Insert as Section 734:

None of the funds appropriated by this Act shall be used to propose or issue rules, regulations, decrees, or orders for the purpose of implementation, or in preparation for implementation, of the Kyoto Protocol which was adopted on December 11, 1997, in Kyoto, Japan, at the Third Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, which has not been submitted to the Senate for advice and consent to ratification pursuant to article II, section 2, clause 2, of the United States Constitution, and which has not entered into force pursuant to article 25 of the Protocol; Provided further, the limitation established in this section not apply to any activity otherwise authorized by law.

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Chairman, I want to state at the outset that this amendment makes the language for this Agriculture Appropriations bill, H.R. 4461, exactly the same, word-for-word, as the language in the energy and water appropriations bill, the same, word-for-word, that will be in the foreign operations bill that will come before this body this week.

This language passed by voice vote with no opposition in about 1 minute just a few days ago. I would like to make four quick key points that are actually directed in this amendment. Number one, no agency can proceed with activities that are not specifically authorized and funded. Number two, no new authority is granted. Number three, neither the United Nations framework convention on climate control, nor the Kyoto Protocol are self-executing and specific implementing legislation is required for any regulation, program or initiative. Number four, since the Kyoto Protocol has not ratified and implementing legislation has not been approved by Congress, nothing contained exclusively in that treaty is funded.

Mr. Chairman, I just want to urge all Members to support what is a bipartisan supported amendment, and it has been our effort to strengthen through clarification and offer consistently in all of these bills and we think that is the proper approach, it simplifies things, clarifies things and I think strengthens things.

Mr. Chairman, in the morning two days ago, the House Appropriations Committee accepted my amendment to the Foreign Operations Appropriations bill. That afternoon an amendment that the gentleman from Indiana Mr. VISCLOSKEY offered on the Energy and Water Appropriations bill was exactly the same wording as what I offered and what was accepted in the full House Appropriations Committee.

Mr. Chairman, I want to point out that this amendment regarding the Kyoto Protocol offered by me and then Mr. VISCLOSKEY and now again by me cannot, under the Rules of the House of Representatives, authorize anything whatsoever on this Agriculture Appropriations bill, H.R. 106-4461, lest it be subject to a point of order.

This amendment shall not go beyond clarification and recognition of the original and enduring meaning of the law that has existed for years now—specifically that no funds be spent on unauthorized activities for the fatally flawed and unratified Kyoto Protocol.

Mr. Chairman, the whole nation deserves to hear the plea of this Administration for clarification of the Kyoto Protocol funding limitation. The plea came from the coordinator of all environmental policy for this Administration, George Frampton, in his position as Acting Chair of the Council on Environmental Quality. On March 1, 2000, on behalf of the Administration he stated before the VA/HUD appropriations subcommittee, and I quote, "Just to finish our dialogue here [about the Kyoto Protocol funding limitation], my point was that it is the very uncertainty about the scope of the language . . . that gives rise to our wanting to not have the continuation of this uncertainty created next year."

Mr. Chairman, I agree with Mr. OBEY when he stated to the Administration, "You're nuts!" upon learning of the fatally flawed Kyoto Protocol that Vice President Gore negotiated.

Mr. Chairman, I thank the Congress for the focus on the activities of this Administration, both authorized and unauthorized.

This amendment shall be read to be a clarification that is fully consistent with the provision that has been signed by President Clinton in six current appropriations laws.

A few key points must be reviewed:

First, no agency can proceed with activities that are not specifically authorized and funded. Mr. Chairman, there has been an effort to confuse the long-standing support that I as well as other strong supporters of the provision on the Kyoto Protocol have regarding important energy supply and energy conservation program. For example, there has never been a question about strong support for voluntary programs, development of clean coal technology, and improvements in energy conservation for all sectors of our economy. Notwithstanding arguments that have been made on the floor in recent days, I have never, ever tried to undermine, eliminate, delete, or delay any programs that have been specifically authorized and funded.

Second, no new authority is granted.

Third, since neither the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change nor the Kyoto Protocol are self executing, specific implementing legislation is required for any regulation, program, or initiative.

Fourth, since the Kyoto Protocol has not been ratified and implementing legislation has not been approved by Congress, nothing contained exclusively in that treaty is funded.

Mr. Chairman, as you know, the Administration negotiated the Kyoto Climate Change Protocol some time ago but has decided not to submit this treaty to the United States Senate for ratification. All indications from this Administration lead to the conclusion that they have no intention of ever submitting the Kyoto Protocol to the Senate.

Pursuant to Article II, Section 2, Clause 2 of the United States Constitution, the President only has the power to make treaties "by and with the Advice and Consent of the Senate." It is therefore unconstitutional for the President to make a treaty in contravention of the Advice of the Senate. The unanimous (95-0) advice of the Senate was given in Senate Resolution 105-98, referred to as the Byrd-Hagel Resolution.

Likewise it is therefore unconstitutional for the President to make a treaty with no intention of ever seeking the consent of the Senate.

The Protocol places severe restrictions on the United States while exempting most countries, including China, India, Mexico, and Brazil, from taking measures to reduce carbon dioxide equivalent emissions. The Administration undertook this course of action despite unanimous support in the United States Senate for the Senate's advice in the form of the Byrd-Hagel resolution calling for commitments by all nations and on the condition that the Protocol not adversely impact the economy of the United States.

We are also concerned that actions taken by Federal agencies constitute the implementation of this treaty before its submission to Congress as required by the Constitution of the United States. Clearly, Congress cannot allow any agency to attempt to interpret current law to avoid constitutional due process.

Clearly, we would not need this debate if the Administration would send the treaty to the Senate. The treaty would be disposed of and we could return to a more productive process for addressing our energy future.

During numerous hearings on this issue, the administration has not been willing to engage in this debate. For example, it took months to extract the documents the administration used for its flawed economics. The message is clear—there is no interest in sharing with the American public the real price tag of this policy.

A balanced public debate will be required because there is much to be learned about the issue before we commit this country to unprecedented curbs on energy use while most of the world is exempt.

Worse yet, some treaty supporters see this as only a first step to elimination of fossil energy production. Unfortunately, the Administration has chosen to keep this issue out of the current debate.

I look forward to working to assure that the administration and EPA understand the boundaries of the current law. It will be up to Congress to assure that backdoor implementation of the Kyoto Protocol does not occur.

In that regard I would like to include in the RECORD a letter with legislative history of the Clean Air Act reported by Congressman JOHN DINGELL who was the Chairman of the House Conference on the Clean Air Act amendments of 1990. No one knows the Clean Air Act like Congressman DINGELL. He makes clear, and I quote, "Congress has not enacted implementing legislation authorizing EPA or any other agency to regulate greenhouse gases."

In closing, I look forward to the report language to clarify what activities are and are not authorized.

Mr. Chairman, I include the following letter for the RECORD:

OCTOBER 5, 1999.

Hon. DAVID M. MCINTOSH,
Chairman, Subcommittee on National Economic Growth, Natural Resources, and Regulatory Affairs, Committee on Government Reform, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I understand that you have asked, based on discussions between our staffs, about the disposition by the House-Senate conferees of the amendments in 1990 to the Clean Air Act (CAA) regarding greenhouse gases such as methane and carbon dioxide. In making this inquiry, you call my attention to an April 10, 1998 Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) memorandum entitled 'EPA's Authority to Regulate Pollutants Emitted by Electric Power Generation Sources' and an October 12, 1998 memorandum entitled 'The Authority of EPA to Regulate Carbon Dioxide Under the Clean Air Act' prepared for the National Mining Association. The latter memorandum discusses the legislative history of the 1990 amendments.

First, the House-passed bill (H.R. 3030) never included any provision regarding the regulation of any greenhouse gas, such as methane or carbon dioxide, nor did the bill address global climate change. The House, however, did include provisions aimed at implementing the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer.

Second, as to the Senate version (S. 1630) of the proposed amendments, the October 12, 1998 memorandum correctly points out that the Senate did address greenhouse gas matters and global warming, along with provisions implementing the Montreal Protocol. Nevertheless, only Montreal Protocol related provisions were agreed to by the House-Senate conferees (see Conf. Rept. 101-952, Oct. 26, 1990).

However, I should point out that Public Law 101-549 of November 15, 1990, which contains the 1990 amendments to the CAA, includes some provisions, such as sections 813, 817 and 819-821, that were enacted as free-standing provisions separate from the CAA. Although the Public Law often refers to the 'Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990,' the Public Law does not specify that reference as the 'short title' of all of the provisions included the Public Law.

One of these free-standing provisions, section 821, entitled 'Information Gathering on Greenhouse Gases contributing to Global Climate Change' appears in the United States code as a 'note' (at 42 U.S.C. 7651k). It requires regulations by the EPA to 'monitor carbon dioxide emissions' from 'all affected sources subject to title V' of the CAA and specifies that the emissions are to be reported to the EPA. That section does not designate carbon dioxide as a 'pollutant' for any purpose.

Finally, Title IX of the Conference Report, entitled 'Clean Air Research,' was primarily negotiated at the time by the House and Senate Science Committees, which had no regulatory jurisdiction under House-Senate

Rules. This title amended section 103 of the CAA by adding new subsections (c) through (k). New subsection (g), entitled 'Pollution Prevention and Control,' calls for 'non-regulatory strategies and technologies for air pollution prevention.' While it refers, as noted in the EPA memorandum, to carbon dioxide as a 'pollutant,' House and Senate conferees never agreed to designate carbon dioxide as a pollutant for regulatory or other purposes.

Based on my review of this history and my recollection of the discussions, I would have difficulty concluding that the House-Senate conferees, who rejected the Senate regulatory provisions (with the exception of the above-referenced section 821), contemplated regulating greenhouse gas emissions or addressing global warming under the Clean Air Act. Shortly after enactment of Public Law 101-549, the United Nations General Assembly established in December 1990 the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee that ultimately led to the Framework Convention on Climate Change, which was ratified by the United States after advice and consent by the Senate. That Convention is, of course, not self-executing, and the Congress has not enacted implementing legislation authorizing EPA or any other agency to regulate greenhouse gases.

I hope that this is responsive.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

JOHN D. DINGELL,
Ranking Member.

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the Knollenberg amendment. His characterization of the language is absolutely correct. It is the same as energy and water, it is the same as full committee has reported for foreign operations and essentially the same intent as Veterans Administration, HUD and Urban Development as well.

Mr. Chairman, I appreciate his work in a bipartisan fashion and, again, I agree with the premise of the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KNOLLENBERG), Kyoto is not the law of the land, but we want to ensure that where we have authorized programs and where there is duplicate language that the law can also be followed. I do appreciate the initiative of the gentleman and would ask my colleagues to support his amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KNOLLENBERG).

The amendment was agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

SEC. 735. After taking any action involving the seizure, quarantine, treatment, destruction, or disposal of wheat infested with karnal bunt, the Secretary of Agriculture shall compensate the producers and handlers for economic losses incurred as the result of the action not later than 45 days after receipt of a claim that includes all appropriate paperwork.

SEC. 736. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Town of Lloyd, New York and the Town of Harris, New York shall be eligible for loans and grants provided through the Rural Community Advancement Program.

1630

AMENDMENT NO. 56 OFFERED BY MR. BOYD

Mr. BOYD. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 56 offered by Mr. BOYD:
Page 72, lines 18 and 19, strike "Town of Harris" and insert "Town of Thompson".

Mr. BOYD. Mr. Chairman, I want to make sure that we have the amendment correct. It should be the amendment that changes the "Town of Harris" to the "Town of Thompson."

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Florida is correct.

Mr. BOYD. Mr. Chairman, it is a technical amendment. I ask support for the amendment.

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

Mr. Chairman, I accept the gentleman's amendment and recommend that the House do so as well.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BOYD).

The amendment was agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will read: The Clerk read as follows:

SEC. 737. Hereafter, notwithstanding section 502(h)(7) of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1472(h)(7)), the fee collected by the Secretary of Agriculture with respect to a guaranteed loan under such section 502(h) at the time of the issuance of such guarantee may be in an amount equal to not more than 2 percent of the principal obligation of the loan.

SEC. 738. The Secretary of Agriculture may use funds available under this and subsequent appropriation Acts to employ individuals to perform services outside the United States as determined by the agencies to be necessary or appropriate for carrying out programs and activities abroad; and such employment actions, hereafter referred to as Personal Service Agreements (PSA), are authorized to be negotiated, the terms of the PSA to be prescribed and work to be performed, where necessary, without regard to such statutory provisions as related to the negotiation, making and performance of contracts and performance of work in the United States. Individuals employed under a PSA to perform such services outside the United States shall not by virtue of such employment be considered employees of the United States Government for purposes of any law administered by the Office of Personnel Management. Such individuals may be considered employees within the meaning of the Federal Employee Compensation Act, 5 U.S.C. 8101 et seq. Further, that Government service credit shall be accrued for the time employed under a PSA should the individual later be hired into a permanent U.S. Government position within FAS or another U.S. Government agency if their authorities so permit.

SEC. 739. (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 141 of the Agricultural Market Transition Act (7 U.S.C. 7251) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(4), by striking "and 2000"; and inserting "through 2001"; and

(2) in subsection (h), by striking "2000" each place it appears and inserting "2001".

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 142(e) of the Agricultural Market Transition Act (7 U.S.C. 7252(e)) is amended by striking "2001" and inserting "2002".

SEC. 740. In addition to amounts otherwise appropriated or made available by this Act, \$4,000,000 is appropriated for the purpose of providing Bill Emerson and Mickey Leland Hunger Fellowships through the Congressional Hunger Center.

SEC. 741. Notwithstanding section 718, title VII of Public Law 105-277, as amended, funds made available hereafter in annual appropriations acts may be used to provide market access program assistance pursuant to section 203 of the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978, as amended (7 U.S.C. 5623), to any agricultural commodity as defined in section 102 of the Agriculture Trade Act of 1978, as amended (7 U.S.C. 5602), except for products specifically excluded by section 1302, title I of Public Law 103-66, as amended, the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993.

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Chairman, I raise a point of order on this section restoring the eligibility of mink for MAP funds.

The CHAIRMAN. Are there other Members who wish to be heard on the point of order that this section constitutes legislation?

The Chair finds, that this provision explicitly supersedes existing law in violation of clause 2 of rule XXI. The point of order is sustained, and the provision is stricken from the bill.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

SEC. 742. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to include a flood plain determination in any environmental impact study conducted by or at the request of the Farm Service Agency for financial obligations or guarantees to aquaculture facilities pending the completion by the Secretary of Agriculture and submission to Congress of a study regarding the environmental impact of aquaculture activities in flood plains in Arkansas.

SEC. 743. Notwithstanding any other provision of law or regulation, hereafter Friends of the National Arboretum, an organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of such Code incorporated in the District of Columbia, shall not be considered a prohibited source with respect to the United States National Arboretum and its employees for any reason, including for the purposes relating to gifts, compensation, or any other donations of any size or kind, so long as Friends of the National Arboretum remains an organization described under section 501(c)(3) of such Code and continues to conduct its operations exclusively for the benefit of the United States National Arboretum.

SEC. 744. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary shall include the value of lost production when determining the amount of compensation to be paid to owners, as provided in Public Law 106-113, appendix E, title II, section 204, for the cost of tree replacement for commercial trees destroyed as part of the Citrus Canker Eradication Program in Florida.

SEC. 745. (a) The Secretary of Agriculture shall issue regulations requiring, for each child nutrition program, that—

(1) alternate protein products which are used to resemble and substitute, in part, for meat, poultry, or seafood shall meet the nutritional specifications for vegetable protein products set forth in section 2(e)(3) of the matter relating to vegetable protein products in appendix A to part 210 of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations, as in effect on April 9, 2000; and

(2) if alternate protein products comprise 30 percent or more of a meat, poultry, or seafood product, that fact shall be disclosed at the point of service.

(b) The Secretary shall require that the regulations issued pursuant to subsection (a)

shall be implemented by each program participant not later than January 1, 2001, and thereafter.

SEC. 746. Effective 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act and continuing for the remainder of fiscal year 2001 and each subsequent fiscal year, establishments in the United States that slaughter or process birds of the order Ratitae, such as ostriches, emus and rheas, and squab, for distribution in commerce as human food shall be subject to the ante mortem and post mortem inspection, reinspection, and sanitation requirements of the Poultry Products Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 451 et seq.) rather than the voluntary poultry inspection program of the Department of Agriculture under section 203 of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1622).

SEC. 747. In using funds made available under section 801(a) of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2000 (Public Law 106-78; 113 Stat. 1175), or under the heading "CROP LOSS ASSISTANCE" under "COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION FUND" of H.R. 3425 of the 106th Congress (as contained in appendix E of Public Law 106-113 (113 Stat. 1501A-289)), to compensate nursery stock producers for nursery stock losses caused by Hurricane Irene on October 16 and 17, 1999, the Secretary of Agriculture shall treat the losses as losses to the 1999 nursery stock crop.

SEC. 748. Any regulation issued pursuant to any plan to eliminate Salmonella Enteritidis illnesses due to eggs (including the Action Plan to Eliminate Salmonella Enteritidis Illnesses Due to Eggs, published on December 10, 1999) which establishes requirements for producers or packers of shell eggs to conduct tests for Salmonella Enteritidis shall contain provisions to defray or reimburse the costs of such tests to producers or packers. Any requirements pursuant to any such plan to divert eggs into pasteurization shall be imposed only as a consequence of positive test results from end product testing. The number of environmental tests required pursuant to any such plan shall, to the extent practicable, not exceed the number of such tests required pursuant to existing national quality assurance programs for shell eggs.

SEC. 749. Section 321(b) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1961(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(3) LOANS TO POULTRY FARMERS.—

"(A) INABILITY TO OBTAIN INSURANCE.—

"(i) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this subtitle, the Secretary may make a loan to a poultry farmer under this subtitle to cover the loss of a chicken house for which the farmer did not have hazard insurance at the time of the loss, if the farmer—

"(I) applied for, but was unable, to obtain hazard insurance for the chicken house;

"(II) uses the loan to rebuild the chicken house in accordance with industry standards in effect on the date the farmer submits an application for the loan (referred to in this paragraph as 'current industry standards');

"(III) obtains, for the term of the loan, hazard insurance for the full market value of the chicken house; and

"(IV) meets the other requirements for the loan under this subtitle, other than (if the Secretary finds that the applicant's farming operations have been substantially affected by a major disaster or emergency designated by the President under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.)) the requirement that an applicant not be able to obtain sufficient credit elsewhere.

"(ii) AMOUNT.—The amount of a loan made to a poultry farmer under clause (i) shall be

an amount that will allow the farmer to rebuild the chicken house in accordance with current industry standards.

“(B) LOANS TO COMPLY WITH CURRENT INDUSTRY STANDARDS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this subtitle, the Secretary may make a loan to a poultry farmer under this subtitle to cover the loss of a chicken house for which the farmer had hazard insurance at the time of the loss, if—

“(I) the amount of the hazard insurance is less than the cost of rebuilding the chicken house in accordance with current industry standards;

“(II) the farmer uses the loan to rebuild the chicken house in accordance with current industry standards;

“(III) the farmer obtains, for the term of the loan, hazard insurance for the full market value of the chicken house; and

“(IV) the farmer meets the other requirements for the loan under this subtitle, other than (if the Secretary finds that the applicant's farming operations have been substantially affected by a major disaster or emergency designated by the President under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.)) the requirement that an applicant not be able to obtain sufficient credit elsewhere.

“(ii) AMOUNT.—The amount of a loan made to a poultry farmer under clause (i) shall be the difference between—

“(I) the amount of the hazard insurance obtained by the farmer; and

“(II) the cost of rebuilding the chicken house in accordance with current industry standards.”.

SEC. 750. Public Law 105-277, division A, title XI, section 1121 (112 Stat. 2681-44, 2681-45) is amended by—

(1) striking “not later than January 1, 2000” and inserting “not later than January 1, 2001”; and

(2) adding the following new subsection at the end thereof—

“(d) ADDITIONAL DISBURSEMENT.—

“(1) COTTON STORED IN GEORGIA.—The State of Georgia shall use funds remaining in the indemnity fund established in accordance with this section to compensate cotton producers in other States who stored cotton in the State of Georgia and incurred losses in 1998 or 1999 as the result of the events described in subsection (a).

“(2) GINNERS AND OTHERS.—The State of Georgia may also use funds remaining in the indemnity fund established in accordance with this section to compensate cotton ginnings and others in the business of producing, ginning, warehousing, buying, or selling cotton for losses they incurred in 1998 or 1999 as the result of the events described in subsection (a), if—

“(A) as of March 1, 2000, the indemnity fund has not been exhausted;

“(B) the State of Georgia provides cotton producers (including cotton producers described in paragraph (1)) an additional time period prior to May 1, 2000, in which to establish eligibility for compensation under this section;

“(C) the State of Georgia determines during calendar year 2000 that all cotton producers in that State and cotton producers in other States as described in paragraph (1) have been appropriately compensated for losses incurred in 1998 or 1999 as described in subsection (a); and

“(D) such additional compensation is not made available until May 1, 2000.”.

APPLE MARKET LOSS ASSISTANCE AND QUALITY LOSS PAYMENTS FOR APPLES AND POTATOES

SEC. 751. (a) APPLE MARKET LOSS ASSISTANCE.—In order to provide relief for loss of markets for apples, the Secretary of Agriculture shall use \$100,000,000 to make payments to apple producers. Payments shall be made on a per pound basis on each qualifying producer's 1999 production of apples, subject to such terms and conditions on such payments as may be established by the Secretary. Payments under this subsection, however, shall not be made with respect to that part of a farm's 1999 apple production that is in excess of 1.6 million pounds.

(b) QUALITY LOSS PAYMENTS FOR APPLES AND POTATOES.—In addition, the Secretary shall use \$15,000,000 to provide compensation to producers of potatoes and to producers of apples who suffered quality losses to their 1999 production of those crops due to, or related to, a 1999 hurricane.

(c) NON-DUPPLICATION OF PAYMENTS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the payments made under this section shall be designed to avoid, taken into account other federal compensation programs as may apply, a duplication of payments for the same loss. Payments made under Federal crop insurance programs shall not, however, be considered to be duplicate payments.

(d) FUNDING.—The Secretary of Agriculture shall use the funds, facilities, and authorities of the Commodity Credit Corporation to carry out this section.

(e) EMERGENCY DESIGNATION.—The entire amount necessary to carry out this section shall be available only to the extent that an official budget request for the entire amount, that includes designation of the entire amount of the request as an emergency requirement as defined in the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended, is transmitted by the President to the Congress: *Provided*, That the entire amount is designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of such Act.

SEC. 752. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act may be used to pay salaries and expenses of personnel to carry out section 508(k) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1508(k)) to reimburse approved insurance providers and agents for the administrative and operating costs that exceed 20 percent of the premium used to define loss ratio for plans currently reimbursed at 24.5 percent and a proportional reduction for the plans currently reimbursed at less than 24.5 percent.

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. COMBEST. Mr. Chairman, I rise to make a point of order against the provision appearing on page 85, lines 6 through 15, of H.R. 4461, the Agriculture Appropriations bill for fiscal year 2001.

The provision cited above violates clause 2(b) of rule XXI of the House in that it contains legislative or authorizing language in an appropriations bill as noted below:

The provision places a limitation on expenditures of the Insurance Fund authorized under the Federal Crop Insurance Act where such limitation does not exist under current law instead of confining such limitation on expenditures to funds made available under this act. Additionally, by addressing funds in other acts, the amendment changes existing law in violation of clause 2(b) of rule XXI of the House.

The CHAIRMAN. Although a limitation, the section addresses funds outside the current bill and, therefore, does constitute legislation. The point of order is sustained. Section 752 is, therefore, stricken from the bill.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

TITLE VIII—TRADE SANCTIONS REFORM AND EXPORT ENHANCEMENT

SEC. 801. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “Trade Sanctions Reform and Export Enhancement Act of 2000”.

SEC. 802. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

(1) AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY.—The term “agricultural commodity” has the meaning given the term in section 102 of the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 (7 U.S.C. 5602).

(2) AGRICULTURAL PROGRAM.—The term “agricultural program” means—

(A) any program administered under the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954 (7 U.S.C. 1691 et seq.);

(B) any program administered under section 416 of the Agricultural Act of 1949 (7 U.S.C. 1431);

(C) any program administered under the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 (7 U.S.C. 5601 et seq.);

(D) the dairy export incentive program administered under section 153 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (15 U.S.C. 713a-14);

(E) any commercial export sale of agricultural commodities; or

(F) any export financing (including credits or credit guarantees) provided by the United States Government for agricultural commodities.

(3) JOINT RESOLUTION.—The term “joint resolution” means—

(A) in the case of section 803(a)(1), only a joint resolution introduced within 10 session days of Congress after the date on which the report of the President under section 803(a)(1) is received by Congress, the matter after the resolving clause of which is as follows: “That Congress approves the report of the President pursuant to section 803(a)(1) of the Trade Sanctions Reform and Export Enhancement Act of 2000, transmitted on . . .”, with the blank completed with the appropriate date; and

(B) in the case of section 806(1), only a joint resolution introduced within 10 session days of Congress after the date on which the report of the President under section 806(2) is received by Congress, the matter after the resolving clause of which is as follows: “That Congress approves the report of the President pursuant to section 806(1) of the Trade Sanctions Reform and Export Enhancement Act of 2000, transmitted on . . .”, with the blank completed with the appropriate date.

(4) MEDICAL DEVICE.—The term “medical device” has the meaning given the term “device” in section 201 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 321).

(5) MEDICINE.—The term “medicine” has the meaning given the term “drug” in section 201 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 321).

(6) UNILATERAL AGRICULTURAL SANCTION.—The term “unilateral agricultural sanction” means any prohibition, restriction, or condition on carrying out an agricultural program with respect to a foreign country or foreign entity that is imposed by the United States for reasons of foreign policy or national security, except in a case in which the United States imposes the measure pursuant to a multilateral regime and the other member countries of that regime have agreed to impose substantially equivalent measures.

(7) UNILATERAL MEDICAL SANCTION.—The term “unilateral medical sanction” means any prohibition, restriction, or condition on exports of, or the provision of assistance consisting of, medicine or a medical device with respect to a foreign country or foreign entity

that is imposed by the United States for reasons of foreign policy or national security, except in a case in which the United States imposes the measure pursuant to a multilateral regime and the other member countries of that regime have agreed to impose substantially equivalent measures.

SEC. 803. RESTRICTION.

(a) NEW SANCTIONS.—Except as provided in sections 804 and 805 and notwithstanding any other provision of law, the President may not impose a unilateral agricultural sanction or unilateral medical sanction against a foreign country or foreign entity, unless—

(1) not later than 60 days before the sanction is proposed to be imposed, the President submits a report to Congress that—

(A) describes the activity proposed to be prohibited, restricted, or conditioned; and

(B) describes the actions by the foreign country or foreign entity that justify the sanction; and

(2) there is enacted into law a joint resolution stating the approval of Congress for the report submitted under paragraph (1).

(b) EXISTING SANCTIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the President shall terminate any unilateral agricultural sanction or unilateral medical sanction that is in effect as of the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) EXEMPTIONS.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to a unilateral agricultural sanction or unilateral medical sanction imposed—

(A) with respect to any program administered under section 416 of the Agricultural Act of 1949 (7 U.S.C. 1431);

(B) with respect to the Export Credit Guarantee Program (GSM-102) or the Intermediate Export Credit Guarantee Program (GSM-103) established under section 202 of the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 (7 U.S.C. 5622); or

(C) with respect to the dairy export incentive program administered under section 153 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (15 U.S.C. 713a-14).

SEC. 804. EXCEPTIONS.

Section 803 shall not affect any authority or requirement to impose (or continue to impose) a sanction referred to in section 803—

(1) against a foreign country or foreign entity—

(A) pursuant to a declaration of war against the country or entity;

(B) pursuant to specific statutory authorization for the use of the Armed Forces of the United States against the country or entity;

(C) against which the Armed Forces of the United States are involved in hostilities; or

(D) where imminent involvement by the Armed Forces of the United States in hostilities against the country or entity is clearly indicated by the circumstances; or

(2) to the extent that the sanction would prohibit, restrict, or condition the provision or use of any agricultural commodity, medicine, or medical device that is—

(A) controlled on the United States Munitions List established under section 38 of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2778);

(B) controlled on any control list established under the Export Administration Act of 1979 or any successor statute (50 U.S.C. App. 2401 et seq.); or

(C) used to facilitate the development or production of a chemical or biological weapon or weapon of mass destruction.

SEC. 805. COUNTRIES SUPPORTING INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM.

Notwithstanding section 803 and except as provided in section 807, the prohibitions in effect on or after the date of the enactment of this Act under section 620A of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2371) on providing, to the government of any country

supporting international terrorism, United States Government assistance, including United States foreign assistance, United States export assistance, or any United States credits or credit guarantees, shall remain in effect for such period as the Secretary of State determines under such section 620A that the government of the country has repeatedly provided support for acts of international terrorism.

SEC. 806. TERMINATION OF SANCTIONS.

Any unilateral agricultural sanction or unilateral medical sanction that is imposed pursuant to the procedures described in section 803(a) shall terminate not later than 2 years after the date on which the sanction became effective unless—

(1) not later than 60 days before the date of termination of the sanction, the President submits to Congress a report containing—

(A) the recommendation of the President for the continuation of the sanction for an additional period of not to exceed 2 years; and

(B) the request of the President for approval by Congress of the recommendation; and

(2) there is enacted into law a joint resolution stating the approval of Congress for the report submitted under paragraph (1).

SEC. 807. STATE SPONSORS OF INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, the export of agricultural commodities, medicine, or medical devices to the government of a country that has been determined by the Secretary of State to have repeatedly provided support for acts of international terrorism under section 620A of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2371) shall only be made—

(1) pursuant to one-year licenses issued by the United States Government for contracts entered into during the one-year period and completed with the 12-month period beginning on the date of the signing of the contract, except that, in the case of the export of items used for food and for food production, such one-year licenses shall otherwise be no more restrictive than general licenses; and

(2) without benefit of Federal financing, direct export subsidies, Federal credit guarantees, or other Federal promotion assistance programs.

(b) QUARTERLY REPORTS.—The applicable department or agency of the Federal Government shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees on a quarterly basis a report on any activities undertaken under subsection (a)(1) during the preceding calendar quarter.

(c) BIENNIAL REPORTS.—Not later than two years after the date of enactment of this Act, and every two years thereafter, the applicable department or agency of the Federal Government shall submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees on the operation of the licensing system under this section for the preceding two-year period, including—

(1) the number and types of licenses applied for;

(2) the number and types of licenses approved;

(3) the average amount of time elapsed from the date of filing of a license application until the date of its approval;

(4) the extent to which the licensing procedures were effectively implemented; and

(5) a description of comments received from interested parties about the extent to which the licensing procedures were effective, after the applicable department or agency holds a public 30-day comment period.

SEC. 808. CONGRESSIONAL PROCEDURES.

(a) REFERRAL OF REPORT.—A report described in section 803(a)(1) or 806(1) shall be referred to the appropriate committee or committees of the House of Representatives and to the appropriate committee or committees of the Senate.

(b) REFERRAL OF JOINT RESOLUTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A joint resolution introduced in the Senate shall be referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations, and a joint resolution introduced in the House of Representatives shall be referred to the Committee on International Relations.

(2) REPORTING DATE.—A joint resolution referred to in paragraph (1) may not be reported before the eighth session day of Congress after the introduction of the joint resolution.

SEC. 809. EFFECTIVE DATE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (b), this title shall take effect on the date of enactment of this Act, and shall apply thereafter in any fiscal year.

(b) EXISTING SANCTIONS.—In the case of any unilateral agricultural sanction or unilateral medical sanction that is in effect as of the date of enactment of this Act, this title shall take effect 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and shall apply thereafter in any fiscal year.

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Chairman, I rise to make a point of order against title VIII.

Mr. Chairman, I believe that title VIII violates clause 2 of rule XXI concerning legislating on an appropriations bill.

Title VIII is legislative in nature because it changes existing law by lifting sanctions against terrorist states in violation of a number of laws, including the Trading with the Enemy Act, the Cuban Democracy Act, and the Cuban Liberty and Democracy Solidarity Act, among other laws.

The CHAIRMAN. Does any other Member desire to be recognized on this point of order?

Mr. OBEY. Yes, I do, Mr. Chairman. I apologize, but I was momentarily distracted. Did the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DIAZ-BALART) just raise a point of order against the Nethercutt provision on the embargo?

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Chairman, if the gentleman will yield, that is correct.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, let me simply say that I will not try to get into the merits of the subject, but speaking to the point of order, the gentleman from Florida is obviously correct in his point of order because the Committee on Rules did not protect this section of the bill under the agreement worked out on the majority side of the aisle, which means at this point that there is no provision in law that will protect farmers; ability to export to the countries named either in this bill or in the supplemental appropriations bill. I personally find that to be regrettable.

But because of the decision of the Committee on Rules to not protect this section of the bill and because of the agreement that was reached by the majority party caucus, farmers are left in never-never land on this subject. Because of that decision, the gentleman

is free to make the point of order, and there is no way to stop it from being stricken.

The CHAIRMAN. Are there other Members who wish to be heard on the point of order? If not, the Chair is prepared to rule.

The Chair finds that title VIII is entirely legislative in character. As such, it violates clause 2(b) of rule XXI. The point of order is sustained. Title VIII is stricken from the bill.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, since no one else seems to at the moment be prepared to address an urgent item, I move to strike the last word.

Mr. Chairman, let me simply take some time right now to indicate that I think the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. SKEEN) has done a lot of hard work trying to essentially squeeze a small amount of dollars into an even smaller bag.

I think the problem is that because of the unrealistic limitation placed upon this subcommittee by the full committee allocation, which was made necessary by what I consider to be a misguided budget resolution which passed this place, it means that this bill falls far short in a number of areas. It certainly falls far short with respect to food safety items. It falls far short with respect to resources needed to deal with market concentration.

The average farmer is in danger of becoming a serf because of the huge concentration that we see in the poultry business, the meat packing business of all kinds, frankly. That is happening in other sectors of agriculture as well.

The problems in agriculture, pests and diseases, the bill falls very, very short of where it needs to be. The conservation programs fall some \$70 million short of the budget request. If we look at other problems, rural development, especially rural housing is \$180 million below the budget request. PL-480 overseas food donation program is significantly below the request. Agriculture research and extension programs are \$63 million below the request.

There are a number of problems associated with this bill, including the rider restricting egg safety measures to reduce salmonella contamination in eggs.

I would also say that this bill is totally absent any solution to the price problems being faced by many farmers. We have a collapsing price as far as dairy farmers are concerned. Many other farmers are facing similar problems with the products that they produce.

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And this bill will not be made whole until we move to conference, where we will be faced with a number of Senate amendments that would add literally billions to try to help farmers get out from under the impact of the misguided Freedom to Farm Act that passed this body several years ago.

So I just wanted to put on record now what my reasons would be personally for opposing the bill when the time comes, although I recognize that the gentleman from New Mexico has been given virtually no maneuvering room in solving some of these problems. The fault lies not with him. The fault lies, in my view, with the budget resolution which was adopted in the first place, which makes it virtually impossible for this House to meet its responsibilities to farmers, to consumers of agriculture products, and to those interested in the issue of rural development as well.

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

(Mr. LATHAM asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Chairman, I too wanted to compliment the chairman from New Mexico on a great job on this bill. I think we will have a few more amendments, maybe in a few minutes here, but the gentleman from Wisconsin brought up a couple of points I wanted to speak to.

This is an appropriations bill. This is not policy. We are funding the policy that has been set by the Congress. I think there are a lot of things we can do to improve the future for our farmers; work harder on conservation to continue those efforts. I also think, as far as the livestock disease center that is going to be going into central Iowa, that that is going to be very, very important funding in this bill as far as the beginning of that process.

So I think this is a good bill. Obviously, we have very tight budget constraints that we are working under. But we also have to look at the fact that 5 years ago we had projected deficits of \$200 billion or more as far as the eye could see. It has been only with some fiscal restraint in this House that we have been able to talk about surpluses and talk about returning some money back to the people out there who work so hard to earn the money that we spend here every day. And it is very important that we spend that money wisely and just do not open the checkbook up or we will be back in the same kind of deficit situation we were previous to this.

We have to look, as far as farm policy, I think, with open eyes about looking at relief as far as taxes, estate taxes, for our farmers. We have to look at our trade policies, the sanctions. It is unfortunate but it is true that the language that was the authorizing language in this bill for Cuba and Libya, Iran, Iraq, and North Korea was stricken from the bill. It will be done this year. We are going to crack that door open as far as lifting sanctions. But what we have to do is look at the rest of the sanction policy that we have, not only with the administration but with the Congress itself.

We have got to learn someday that using food and medicine as weapons in foreign policy does not work. They never punish the people that they are

intended to punish. What we end up doing is hurting producers who are trying to sell into those markets. We put sanctions on countries with the idea of somehow hurting them, and all we do is hurt the poor people in those countries by depriving them of the availability of food and medicine.

We have also got to look at the regulatory situation we have in agriculture. As someone who lives on a farm, I understand that in northwest Iowa we have a lot of flat lands, they call them prairie potholes, and yet the bureaucrats here in Washington somehow believe that that is wetlands like they would envision them to be along the coast of the United States. It is not. We may have an eighth of an acre in the middle of a 240-acre field, and somehow that has to be protected, yet it is farmed every year anyway.

We have somehow got to make a determination in agriculture who has jurisdiction. Farmers have to deal with four Federal agencies today as far as wetlands regulations: USDA, Fish and Wildlife, the Army Corps of Engineers, and the EPA; and it is simply not working. They never get a straight answer from anyone.

So, Mr. Chairman, there are a lot of things that need to be done, we have to look at policy down the road, but again this bill is an appropriations bill. I think with the dollars we were given, the chairman did a fantastic job. And I also want to compliment the ranking member, who is not here, but compliment her also for the great cooperation. It is a real honor and privilege to serve on this subcommittee.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. BOYD

Mr. BOYD. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. BOYD:

Page 96, after line 4, insert the following:

SEC. 753. None of the funds made available in this Act or in any other Act may be used to recover part or all of any payment erroneously made to any oyster fisherman in the State of Connecticut for oyster losses under the program established under section 1102(b) of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999 (as contained in section 101(a) of Division A of the Omnibus Consolidated and Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1999 (Public Law 105-277)), and the regulations issued pursuant to such section 1102(b).

Mr. BOYD (during the reading). Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent that the amendment be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Mr. BOYD. Mr. Chairman, I rise to offer this amendment to right a wrong against the oyster harvesters of Connecticut.

This amendment would ensure that no funds would be used to force these men and women to return vital disaster aid back to USDA. Three years ago, the oyster fishermen who work

the Long Island Sound and their families faced tough times. By the fall of 1998, over 95 percent of the oysters on 1,750 acres of oyster beds had died, devastating the \$62 million industry and the families that relied on it for survival.

The USDA provided \$1.5 million in disaster assistance last year to help get these families through the crisis and to ensure the long-time survival of Connecticut's valuable oyster industry. It was the right thing to do. It helped these small businesses get through tough times. The oystermen thought that they had weathered the storm.

But after surviving the crisis, just a few weeks ago the oyster harvesters got a letter in the mail from the USDA saying it was sorry, it made a mistake, and it wanted its money back; it wanted the \$1.5 million returned. That money that was invested in reseeded oyster beds so that there would be an oyster harvest in the future, and it went to pay mortgages, to repair boats, and to feed and educate children.

Mr. Chairman, these are not people that have \$1.5 million to give back to the Department of Agriculture. They should not be forced to mortgage their homes and futures to pay for a bureaucratic mistake.

My amendment would simply prohibit any funds made available in this act or in any other act from being used to recover part or all of any payment erroneously made to any Connecticut oyster harvester for oyster losses in 1998.

CBO has ruled it as budget neutral, taking no essential funds out of this bill. I call on my colleagues to support the amendment and bring justice home to the oyster harvesters of Connecticut.

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

Mr. Chairman, I accept the gentleman's amendment and recommend that the House do so as well.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BOYD).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 6 OFFERED BY MR. COBURN

Mr. COBURN. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 6 offered by Mr. COBURN:
Insert before the short title the following title:

TITLE IX—ADDITIONAL GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 901. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used by the Food and Drug Administration for the testing, development, or approval (including approval of production, manufacturing, or distribution) of any drug solely intended for the chemical induction of abortion.

Mr. COBURN. Mr. Chairman, we have addressed this amendment 2 years prior to now, and we have passed it each year in the House.

What this amendment does is limit and prohibit the use of funds by the Food and Drug Administration in approving any drug that's sole intended purpose is the chemical inducement of an abortion.

Why is this important? First of all, if we go and look at the authorizing language to the Food and Drug Administration what we will find is that, in fact, its charge and its mission is to provide safety and efficacy for life and health. There is nothing about the chemical inducement of an abortion that is safe, either for the mother or for the unborn child. The other reason that this is important is that it violates the very premise under which the FDA was authorized.

What this amendment would do is it would limit the expenditure of Federal funds by the Food and Drug Administration in their efforts to approve drugs whose sole purpose is to terminate life, to take the life of an unborn child.

One of the things that has come to light over the last 3 years that now cannot be disputed scientifically is that we have an ever enlarging number of women who encounter breast cancer. And although it is not politically correct in our culture today, the fact is that having an abortion markedly increases one's risk for breast cancer. There are now 10 out of 11 studies that prove that without a shadow of a doubt. An analysis of all those studies combined, plus other studies, show that there is a 30 percent increase in the risk for breast cancer.

We have funded through this Congress and many others marked research in breast cancer. We just passed a breast cancer and cervical cancer bill through this House with the whole goal to extend the life of these women. It would seem fitting to me that we would not want to allow the FDA to go down a course in which their whole intended purpose is to take the life of the unborn child.

The other thing that is important in this is that drugs that are intended solely for this purpose are intended so to take the life of a child under 9 weeks of age. We also have irrefutable evidence that now an unborn child at 19 days post conception has a heartbeat, and at 41 days post conception has brain waves.

If we look at our definition of death in this country and we say that the absence of brain waves and the absence of a heartbeat is death, then certainly the opposite of that is life. So what we are talking about is taking unborn life. Whether we fight about when life begins or not, we know it is present at 41 days. So we are talking about authorizing an agency of the Federal Government to figure out how best to provide a drug to take that life.

1700

That is not what this country is about, it is not what this bill should be about, and I would ask that the Members support this amendment.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I rise today, once again, in opposition to the Coburn Amendment that would limit FDA testing on the drug Mifepristone or RU-486. As Congressman COBURN has tried year after year, this amendment, as drafted, would limit FDA testing on any drug that might induce miscarriage, including drugs that treat cancer, ulcers and rheumatoid arthritis.

Although this debate is truly about the FDA's ability to test, research and approve any drug based on sound scientific evidence, I find this continual assault on a women's choice and right to control her body frustrating, to put it lightly.

Just yesterday, the Supreme Court upheld a woman's right to choose whether or not an abortion is right for her, without the State enacting undue restrictions. By ruling the Nebraska "partial birth" ban unconstitutional, the Court reiterated that *Roe v. Wade* is still the law of the land and cannot be undermined with ambiguous anti-abortion language.

The Supreme Court's decision spotlights the judicial branch's role in protecting and preserving the reproductive rights of American women as the Constitution provided. In a similar vein, the Federal Drug Administration is charged with determining whether a drug is safe and effective without political interference. However, Mr. COBURN's Amendment would interject politics into this process with no regard to the health and well being of women in the country.

Mifepristone is a proven safe drug that has been used in France since 1988 after the French Minister of Health declared Ru-486 "the moral property of women," thus showing the enlightened state of affairs in France that continues to elude this country.

However, Mifepristone has continually satisfied the FDA's safety requirement in 1996 based on clinical trials and after two favorable letters it is expected to receive final approval soon.

Although Mifepristone was developed as a drug that induces chemical miscarriage, I am more concerned about its other potential uses in treating conditions such as infertility, ectopic pregnancy, endometriosis, uterine fibroids and breast cancer.

The problem with characterizing this amendment as an abortion drug is that Mifepristone has the potential for so many other uses. Thus if we only highlight one use of Mifepristone, then we might as well do the same for chemotherapy drugs which can also cause miscarriage.

Yet, because of the FDA's arduous approval process, many drugs have been found to be safe and effective, notwithstanding their potential usefulness in inducing miscarriage.

Thus, if we go by the Coburn standard, most of these drugs would have not been developed, and future drugs may be jeopardized. Research of potential treatments for each of these conditions is crucial to women's health. Controversy concerning this particular drug should not be a barrier to treatment.

Science should dictate what drugs are approved by the FDA, not politics. Congress has never instructed the FDA to approve or disapprove a drug. The FDA protocol for drug approval depends upon rigorous and objective scientific evaluation of a drug's safety. Ultimately, this is a decision that should be made by the researchers and doctors.

This amendment could jeopardize the integrity of the FDA approval process. Under this

process, a company that wants to begin clinical trials on a new drug must submit an application for FDA approval. If that application has not been approved within 30 days, the company may move forward.

This amendment would prevent the FDA from reviewing any application for a drug that might induce miscarriage. No funds would be available for the FDA to even oversee any trials.

Therefore, I urge my Colleagues to oppose this amendment. We cannot afford to inhibit research on certain health conditions based upon the controversy of the particular drug. We also cannot allow the FDA to be limited in its ability to approve drugs based on politics.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to the Coburn amendment.

Since being elected to Congress eight years ago, I have been working with many of my colleagues for the right of all women in the United States to have safe, healthy alternatives to surgical abortions.

While we've seen RU-486 become available in Europe, we're still fighting for expanded research, development, and availability of drugs for medical abortions, like RU-486, here in the United States.

Even worse, in Congress we continue to face these outrageous efforts by the far right to block the Food and Drug Administration's approval of RU-486.

I'm sad to say it, but the Coburn amendment is the same attack that conservatives have tried every year.

Mr. Chairman, pure and simple, the Coburn amendment is an attack on a woman's right to make decisions that affect her health.

It seeks to deny a woman's right to safe medicines like RU-486 even when faced with a crisis pregnancy.

Furthermore, I ask my colleagues to realize that by prohibiting the FDA from approving these medicines—This amendment will also have a life-threatening impact on other women and men.

It harms those who have medical conditions, such as tumors, that can be treated with drugs like RU-486.

We cannot let the far right stand in the way of women's health or patients' lives.

I urge my colleagues—vote against the Coburn amendment!

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Chairman, I am concerned about the implications on research if this amendment passes. Scientific study and preliminary evidence show Mifepristone (RU-486) has significant promise for the treatment of: Breast Cancer, Ovarian Cancer, Prostate Cancer, Cushing's Disease (a Pituitary Gland Disorder), Meningioma (benign brain tumors), and Ectopic Pregnancy.

If we block the FDA from testing or approving mifepristone, we may be penalizing thousands of Americans who have nothing to do with the abortion issue.

I feel this vote has greater ramifications than just abortion.

I am also concerned about preserving the scientific integrity of the FDA's drug approval process.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN).

The question was taken; and the Chairman announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. COBURN. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote, and pending

that, I make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to House Resolution 538, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

AMENDMENT NO. 47 OFFERED BY MR. ROYCE

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 47 offered by Mr. ROYCE:

Page 96, after line 7, insert the following:

TITLE IX—ADDITIONAL GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 901. ACROSS-THE-BOARD PERCENTAGE REDUCTION.

Each amount appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act that is not required to be appropriated or otherwise made available by a provision of law is hereby reduced by one percent.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Chairman, I realize that this year's agricultural appropriations bill is below last year's level, and I applaud the chairman for his efforts on that. However, even more reductions can be made in this bill, and should be made, because, frankly, Congress should continue to cut government waste.

Just a few weeks ago, the President signed into law a \$15.3 billion crop insurance and emergency farm package. That measure marks the third big bill out of the agricultural economy in the last 3 years.

Now, this emergency bill amounts to a mini-farm bill affecting most divisions of the agricultural department and sprinkling pet programs to special interest groups. In effect, Congress has been passing more than one agricultural appropriations bill each year; we have been passing two.

In fiscal year 1999, Congress passed \$6.6 billion in supplemental assistance. So far in fiscal year 2000, Congress has passed four different measures amounting to \$15 billion in emergency agricultural spending, and this includes the \$210 million of emergency spending attached to the military construction supplemental passed by this House just before the July 4th recess. Not even into fiscal year 2001 yet, Congress has already passed \$1.6 billion in emergency funding.

Mr. Chairman, Congress cannot afford to pass two appropriations bills for agriculture each and every year.

Since late 1998, Congress has allotted \$22 billion in disaster market loss payments to growers, roughly doubling the subsidies promised under the 1996 Freedom to Farm law. Lawmakers are beginning to use this annual ritual of emergency packages as their vehicle of choice for moving pet projects.

Under the guise of a national emergency, Congress rams through emergency spending bills full of unnecessary, unwanted, unauthorized, unmiti-

gated pork. The emergency package for Colombia-Kosovo and disaster relief included millions for a Coast Guard jet, for instance, for Alaska. It included money for an ice breaker and other egregious pork. If we do not cut back now, our senior citizens will pay the bills when Medicare or Social Security runs dry, and that is not a legacy any one of us wants to live with.

The Department of Agriculture in its current configuration still reflects the needs of an America that existed prior to the industrial revolution. These Depression-era programs still work to prop up commodity prices.

Most agriculture spending aimed at farmers is based on a restrictive centralized planning system. Sixty percent of farm payments goes to 15 percent of the farmers with gross sales in excess of \$100,000. Very little of these price supports goes to those who really need it, the small family farmers.

Attempts to manipulate markets and subsidize the economic life of a group of businessmen only harm consumers and farmers. Programs dedicated to agriculture comprise 34 percent of the Department's budget. The remainder goes to forestry, rural development, and welfare.

Back in 1862, when Abraham Lincoln created this agency, five out of 10 American workers were employed in agriculture. Well, that is no longer the case today; yet the Agriculture Department is the fourth largest agency in the President's cabinet, behind Defense, Veterans and Treasury. There is now about one bureaucrat for every six full-time farmers, and not a single one of these bureaucrats helps crops grow.

I support a gradual and consistent reduction in this appropriations bill. We have made progress in the 1996 reforms, but we need to do more; and we need to ensure that these reforms stay put. We must continue to wean agricultural special interests from their dependence on the Federal Government.

My amendment is supported by Citizens Against Government Waste. A 1 percent across-the-board reduction will save American taxpayers \$750 million next year alone. It is my hope that this money will go to debt reduction.

Again, the chairman has done an admirable job, but more can be done; and saving one penny on every dollar is the very least we can do. I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the gentleman's amendment.

Mr. Chairman, the process associated with the appropriation is long. It includes oversight hearings and evaluations of many proposals. The subcommittee reviewed detailed budget requests and asked several thousand questions for the record. In addition, the subcommittee received over 2,900 individual requests for spending considerations from Members of the House.

The funding presented in this year's bill represents the culmination of

many months of work by the subcommittee. The gentleman has not been specifically involved in the process.

The gentleman's amendment moves to arbitrarily cut funding without any consideration to the merit or value of the needs facing American agriculture. This approach ignores the methodical process that the committee used to fund the line items in this bill.

If the gentleman were truly interested in reducing the bill in a logical manner, he would identify the specific programs and accounts that should be reduced with his amendment. Then we could have a valuable debate on the individual merits of the funding proposal. But the gentleman's amendment simply employs the Draconian reduction approach to the discretionary portion of the bill, with little understanding as to its negative impact on vital programs funded by this bill.

I urge my colleagues to defeat the gentleman's amendment.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

Mr. Chairman, this amendment is one of the best substitutes for thinking that I have seen on the floor in quite some time. The gentleman has given as one of his reasons for proposing this 1 percent cut the fact that he does not like the fact that there are some agriculture commodity supplementals that have been passed by the Congress. The fact is, those are not in this bill. They do not have diddly to do with this bill. They ought to be in this bill, because, I promise you, before the Congress is finished, it will respond to the problem on the farm with respect to prices.

The Senate has already passed \$1.2 billion in additional assistance to farmers who are being crippled by low prices, thanks to the spectacular failure of the Freedom to Farm Act; and before this bill is finished, the House will have to accept some of what the Senate is talking about with respect to dairy funding, with respect to livestock funding and the rest.

But the fact is, right now the bill the gentleman is trying to cut does not contain those items, and because he does not like the fact that somewhere along the line those items might be funded, he apparently is willing to cut funding for child nutrition, to cut funding for agencies that protect the public against diseased food and items like that.

The gentleman would cut the regulation and safety of drugs and medical devices by FDA, he would cut rural water and sewer and housing and economic development, he would cut vital conservation programs on the farm, he would cut the APHIS program to help control plant and animal pests and diseases.

I just went through several national forests over the past 2 weeks and saw the incredible damage done to those forests by pests. In fact, I saw some spectacular damage in California. I would ask the gentleman whether he

believes that pest control programs in California are really a waste of the taxpayers' money or not. It is destroying the timber harvests, it is destroying agricultural products of all kind, and, whether the gentleman recognizes it or not, forests are an agricultural product. At least they are seen that way by a lot of people who harvest forests for a living.

I would say that if the gentleman is comfortable in cutting USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service, which is responsible for the inspection of meat and poultry, he may be comfortable doing that. I am not. If the gentleman is comfortable saying that 74,000 fewer low-income pregnant women and children will be served by the WIC program, he may be comfortable with that. I am not.

Mr. Chairman, with that, I think we ought to just let the chips fall where they may. I intend to oppose the amendment, and I would hope that other thoughtful Members of the House would as well.

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the requisite number of words.

Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to this amendment, and to just maybe clarify some of the statements made earlier.

The funding that was put in the supplemental was for hurricane damage. These are real emergencies. It has gone on now about a year, and without a vehicle to help the people out there that were so devastated last year.

I just want to remind the House also, the \$15 billion bill that went through, that is spread out. The crop insurance portion of it is spread out over 5 years, and the intention is to have a crop insurance program in place policy-wise and funding-wise that is going to actually help farmers manage risk.

I think we have an extremely good product, and farmers will now have a vehicle where they can insure both price and yield risk, and hopefully the dependency for additional supplementals will be curbed dramatically in the future with that type of program in place. Also for livestock producers, it has a plan in there so that they can also cover both fatality and price risk.

So while I do not disagree with the intention of the gentleman, I think that we need to maintain fiscal sanity around here, but I have also heard over the 3 days of debate on this bill how this bill is currently underfunded to begin with. I think, like the gentleman from Wisconsin said, there are very vital services that are in this bill that would be dramatically harmed and programs that would be dramatically harmed with this type of cut.

I will say in reference to concern about the current farm policy that I do not know how one can say that our current farm bill really is responsible for the Asian financial collapse, where most of our major customers of the world have not been able to buy our

products in the past few years. Fortunately, the economy in those areas is rebounding. Hopefully, the future will be better. I do not know how one can say anything about farm policy being the cause for 3 years of record worldwide production and surpluses. That simply is not the cause of what the price situation is as far as our grains are concerned, certainly.

Also when one looks at what our export policy is with the embargoes that we have on 40 percent of the world's population today, they are totally wrong and also have a great effect as far as the prices we see in agriculture.

So while I will match my record with anyone as far as being fiscally responsible here, I think this is ill conceived, will do a great amount of damage, and I would certainly hope that the House would reject it.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. LATHAM. I yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Chairman, the point I want to make to the House and the point I would like to make to the gentleman is that the actual economic loss from the weather-related disasters that the gentleman has cited was \$1.5 billion. Congress responded to this by adding \$4.2 billion in emergency disaster relief. This is the impulse that I am trying to check with this amendment, to cut 1 percent, because I think this has been the response; and it has been overly generous in terms of what it has done with the taxpayers' funds.

1715

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Chairman, reclaiming my time, I agree with the gentleman that the problem was at that time that not all of the losses in the agriculture sector were known. If we talk to the Members from North Carolina, from the South who were dramatically affected, there are additional costs, and I think there was \$210 million in the supplemental to address those issues that were not addressed previously.

Again, I agree with the gentleman that we have to make sure that we keep a handle on spending, but certainly there was a real emergency and there continues to be because a lot of needs were not addressed previously.

So I appreciate the gentleman's comments.

Mr. BOYD. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the requisite number of words.

Mr. Chairman, I also want to stand in opposition to the gentleman from California's amendment. I would agree with the gentleman that ad hoc disaster assistance payments on an annual or even sometimes more than an annual basis is not the way to run a good railroad here. I think the reason we have had to do that is because we have had a failed national agricultural policy called Freedom to Farm.

However, the gentleman's amendment does not deal with that problem; what his amendment does is go after

such programs as Federal food safety programs, the APHIS programs which control the pests and diseases which we have all talked about here in the last month or two, such things as plum pox and citrus canker and glassy wing sharpshooter, and all of those sorts of invasive pests that come from other countries which the APHIS has the responsibility of keeping out of this country.

The regulation of safety and drugs and medical devices by the FDA would be cut by this gentleman's amendment; nutrition programs for children and the elderly; housing, water and sewer, and economic development programs available in rural and small town America; conservation programs of vital importance; those are the programs that the amendment cuts.

So I would implore the gentleman from California, Mr. Chairman. If he would like to work with us on improving the national agricultural policy of this Nation, I would very much like to do that, but I do not believe that this amendment is the right way to go, and I urge its defeat.

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the requisite number of words.

Mr. Chairman, the gentleman from California is rightly concerned about expenditures growing. I have mixed emotions on how to cut Federal spending.

In this case, if I could call on the gentleman from California, I would inquire, does he have an idea of the millions of dollars that this is going to cut from some important programs. The answer is roughly \$145 million. \$145 million that is going to come out of the Food and Drug Administration, that is going to come from food safety programs, that is going to come out of reductions to the farm service agencies that already are having difficulty serving farmers like they should. All the regulations that we have developed in this country are now overwhelming those county offices. So I am particularly concerned about the ability of farmers to receive help in keeping up with all of the rules and the regulations. This amendment would cut other farmer assistance programs.

Mr. Chairman, we are faced with a serious situation where other countries of the world are helping and subsidizing their farmers 5 times as much as we are; for example, in Europe. So how, when they subsidize their farmers to that level, can we cut spending, even by the one percent suggested.

We are going to have to make a decision. Do we want to keep agricultural production and the agriculture industry in this country alive and well, or are we going to let that industry fade. I say that we better think very carefully, not just this Congress, but the American people better think very carefully about whether we want to produce our own food and fiber in this country; whether we want to know that it is produced in a safe way;

whether we want the freshness and reliable supply.

In this case, I speak very strongly against the amendment. We do need to increase the efficiency of U.S. Department of Agriculture operations, however it is a disservice to farmers to take \$145 million out of the discretionary spending of the agriculture budget.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE).

The question was taken; and the Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to House Resolution 538, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 36 OFFERED BY MR. CROWLEY

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 36 offered by Mr. CROWLEY:

Insert before the short title the following title:

TITLE IX—ADDITIONAL GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 901. None of the amounts made available in this Act for the Food and Drug Administration may be expended to enforce or otherwise carry out section 801(d)(1) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act.

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Chairman, I reserve a point of order.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. SKEEN) reserves a point of order.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. CROWLEY).

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Chairman, earlier this year, working with the House Committee on Government Reform's minority office and the gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN), the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. LOWEY) and myself conducted a study of the cost that seniors in our congressional districts pay for their prescription drugs versus the cost paid by their counterparts in Canada and Mexico for the exact same drugs. Both the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. LOWEY) and I were startled by the results, to say the least.

We found that seniors in our districts in New York pay, on average, 91 percent more than seniors in Canada and 89 percent more than seniors in Mexico for the exact same drugs; twice as much for the exact same drugs, same dosage, same in every way, expect price. We did not study arcane drugs not used in the real world to skew our data, but rather the 5 most popular prescription drugs sold to seniors in the U.S. today: Zocor, Prilosec, Procardia, Zolof, and Norvasc.

Let me put it in perspective. I have a constituent in Long Island City, New

York who has to purchase 100 capsules of Prilosec every 3 months for his wife. He pays almost \$400 for these drugs. I have a letter from the gentleman who writes, "Isn't it an outrage for us to pay this price for medication my wife will have to take on a regular basis?"

Well, my answer to that gentleman is yes, it is an outrage, especially in light of the fact that this same drug that costs \$400 in Queens, New York would have cost him \$107 in Mexico and \$184 in Canada.

Similar results were borne out by a number of other studies conducted throughout the United States, studies which mirrored the results that the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. LOWEY) and I saw in our respective districts. But if my constituent or any American went to Mexico or Canada to buy this drug and tried to bring them back over the border into the United States, he or she would be committing a Federal crime and could theoretically be punished for that crime.

The only thing criminal I see are these extremely high prices that they are forced to pay for drugs in the United States. Mr. Chairman, \$400 for Prilosec, a drug that was researched, patented and manufactured here in the United States. It begs the question, Mr. Chairman: why is Prilosec cheaper in Canada and Mexico than here in the United States where it was made and developed in the first place? It is because in the United States the major drug manufacturers practice price discrimination whereby they charge those least able to pay, such as seniors on a fixed income, more for their medications than they charge others such as HMOs and large hospitals, that enjoy sweetheart deals with the drug manufacturers.

Price discrimination is illegal in Canada and in Mexico. That is why I am offering this amendment today, to highlight the practice of price discrimination by the pharmaceutical industry that is being used against millions of American seniors who need prescription drug medication. More simply put, Mr. Chairman, Americans are being gouged by the American pharmaceutical industry.

I go about trying to stop this practice of price discrimination by prohibiting funding to enforce Section 801(d)(1) of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act. Currently, this section of Federal law restricts the rights of an individual to cross across international borders to purchase one's prescription drugs. This amendment will not only allow border residents to travel, but also force this Congress to confront and stop the practice of price discrimination in the pharmaceutical industry.

Mr. Chairman, I hear from my constituents all the time about the high cost paid by them for medications. That further reinforces my determination for this Congress to pass legislation mandating the inclusion of a prescription drug benefit under the Medicare program. Unfortunately, the seniors of America did not get that before

the recess, despite all of the rhetoric from the other side of the aisle.

So I offer this amendment as a first step towards the assistance of America's seniors. Prescription drug medications are not a luxury, they are a necessity. Sometimes we forget that here as we enjoy our generous taxpayer-subsidized, top-of-the-line health insurance.

Let me make clear what my amendment will and will not do so as not to confuse the debate. It will decriminalize seniors who must travel south of the border to purchase their prescription drugs. It will highlight the fact that seniors in America are the continued victims of price discrimination which this GOP-controlled Congress continues to ignore. It will continue to prohibit the importation in the United States of non FDA-approved drugs that could be dangerous.

This amendment does not weaken inspection standards for the importation of foreign-made drugs into the U.S. At no time does this amendment change the existing Federal regulations regarding the importation of foreign manufactured drugs into the U.S. This amendment will not weaken the ability of our government to inspect and seize illegal narcotics being brought into the United States.

The CHAIRMAN. Does the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. SKEEN) insist on his point of order?

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Chairman, I withdraw my reservation of a point of order.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman's reservation of a point of order is withdrawn.

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the gentleman's amendment.

Although it is well-intentioned, this amendment will go far beyond its stated purpose. The amendment would eliminate the ability of the Food and Drug Administration to trace a drug back to the original manufacturer. It is in opposition to the intention of Congress as expressed in the Prescription Drug Marketing Act of 1987 and, most significantly, this amendment may harm the very people the gentleman intends to help.

The amendment assumes that all drugs with the same name are, in fact, the same. Let me assure my colleagues that this is not the case when dealing with imported drugs. There are many ways in which a drug may differ from one that one would pick up at one's pharmacy. Drugs that look legitimate may be counterfeit, sub-potent or contaminated. There is a great profit, and great potential harm, in counterfeit drugs. This amendment would severely hamper the efforts of the Food and Drug Administration inspectors to stop counterfeit drugs.

The amendment further assumes that drug regulation in other countries brings the same measure of safety that drug regulation in the United States brings. This is a false assumption.

There is a reason that U.S. drug approval is considered the "gold standard." The FDA scientists inspect all manufacturing facilities and set standards for storage and handling of the drug. There is great variability in the quality controls on manufacturing throughout the world. It seems absurd that without any FDA inspection, consumers would take complex drugs made in countries in which they would not drink the water.

The amendment takes a shotgun approach to a very specific economic problem. It is not a solution that gives priority to people's health. In fact, it puts their health at risk. Is it fair for certain members of society, because of economic concerns, to have a lesser assurance of drug safety? Taking risks with drugs is not the way to solve an economic problem.

I would encourage my colleagues to address those concerns in other prescription drug discussions, and not in this bill.

1730

When we take medication and are confident in its safe and effective use, we have the regulatory system that we have created to thank. I urge Members to keep the system strong and fair for all Americans by voting no on this amendment.

Mr. COBURN. I move to strike the last word, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support for this amendment. I believe the gentleman from New York has hit on an issue that we talked about during the prescription drug debate.

I want to carry it a little further. The drug that he utilized, one of those, is Prilosec. There are three drugs on the market to compete with that in the United States. They all do essentially the same thing. Prilosec is about to go off patent. It is a \$5.9 billion per year drug, per year.

Of the two drugs that have come to market to compete with it, they are priced exactly the same. To me, that smells like no competition, it smells like a wink and a nod. Why, in a market that is a \$6 billion market, would there not be any price competition for a drug that does essentially the same thing?

I believe there may be some legitimate concerns about minimal packaging or safety, but the thing we need to remember is that this amendment is directed towards drugs made in this country, shipped to Canada and then come back, or into Mexico and then come back. So these are drugs that have already been licensed, they have been manufactured in an FDA facility, and in fact they should be, under NAFTA, readily coming across our border without any inhibition whatever if there is a bona fide prescription for that drug in this country.

We have a crisis in prescription drugs, but it is not a crisis in Medicare, it is a crisis in price. The reason we have the crisis in price is there is not

adequate competition in the pharmaceutical industry.

I would direct the Members of this body to go to the FTC's website where they have identified four manufacturers over the last year raising the cost for prescription drugs close to \$1 billion on four separate drugs because they colluded with people to not bring other drugs to market. They were actually paying their competitors not to bring drugs to market.

So I believe the gentleman from New York has a wonderful idea. I believe it is an appropriate idea. I think the safety concerns are a red herring. There are not the safety concerns because they are actually manufactured in this country. The FDA will not have any limitations on it.

As far as traceability, we are going to be able to trace these drugs like any other drug. They are not going to be allowed to be sold in Canada with a prescription unless we can trace it and keep a record, just as in this country. There will be completely the same types of regulations in terms of pharmaceuticals.

As a practicing physician that sees that people cannot afford their medicines today, we have to do something. The first thing we need to do is to start competition. If the Justice Department is not going to investigate the pharmaceutical industry, we should be doing this and passing this amendment.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

Mr. Chairman, I will certainly support this amendment, but I must say that I will be amused to see those persons in this Chamber who will today vote for this amendment who just a short time ago voted to prevent us from being able to directly attack the problem of pricing for prescription drugs.

The fact is if this amendment passes what we will be saying is that, for instance, American senior citizens will not have to worry about whether they are being penalized when they go to Canada to buy drugs that are cheaper than they would be if they bought the very same brand name product in the United States.

To me, if this House wants to do something really significant, it would pass the Allen bill, which would simply require that in addition to providing a prescription drug benefit for all seniors under Medicare, that it would also guarantee that Medicare would be able to assure that drug prices charged to Medicare and to senior citizens under Medicare would have to be at the same lower price that drug companies make available their products to their most favored volume customers. That is what we really ought to do.

This amendment goes as far as it can go, but I would say that I do not think seniors should be fooled that they have gotten much help from folks who vote for this amendment who last week voted against our being able to expand Medicare coverage for every single

American, and, for that matter, to attack the price issue at the same time.

Senior citizens should not have to leave America in order to be treated like Americans. They ought to be able to get the right treatment here at home, and they would if this Congress had guts enough to take on the pharmaceutical industry. It does not, so I guess this is the best we are able to do under the circumstances.

That is not the fault of the gentleman who offers the amendment, but it is the fault of every other Member of this House who chose last week to make a decision that prevented us from providing real direct help to seniors on the issue of prescription drug price. I do not think that many seniors are going to be fooled by people who will cast that vote last week and then run to embrace this amendment this week. I think they will recognize tokenism when they see it.

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the requisite number of words.

Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of this amendment, as well. It is really critical that we do something about the discrepancy in prices of prescription drugs in Mexico, Canada, and even in Europe as far as the prices that our senior citizens in rural Missouri are getting. We do not live close to any of the borders, just like the gentleman from New York (Mr. CROWLEY) said.

However, I have got more constituents than I can mention, and one comes to mind whose son has a very severe case of epilepsy. The only way she can afford the epilepsy medicine is to go to Canada to get it. It is a big problem because she is always scared of being punished by this government for having to do that, but she wants her son to be well, and she otherwise could not afford the drugs. So this is very important.

This is very similar to the legislation that the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. BERRY), the gentleman from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) and I introduced, the International Prescription Drug Parity Act, which would allow wholesalers, distributors, and pharmacists to reimport drugs back into the United States, subject to FDA safety regulations. It is very important because we must deal with the issue of price before we deal with the issue of prescription drug coverage. I think most people would agree with that.

I do, however, want to ask the gentleman from New York (Mr. CROWLEY) a couple of things, particularly with regard to the safety factor, because I cannot tell from the way his amendment is written if it is as tough with regard to safety as our legislation is.

Would the gentleman tell me about how the FDA would oversee or regulate the drugs that are reimported back into the United States, if he would?

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Chairman, will the gentlewoman yield?

Mrs. EMERSON. I yield to the gentleman from New York.

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding. This will not weaken the inspection standards for the importation of foreign-made drugs into the United States.

I understand the Committee on Commerce held hearings last month in June to address the concerns that the FDA had only inspected 25 percent of foreign drug manufacturers who brought medications by import into the United States.

My amendment will not weaken the FDA here at all, or even hamper their inspection services with regard to the foreign-made drugs being imported into the U.S. My amendment deals only with the reimportation, reimportation of American-made FDA-approved drugs back into the United States.

In fact, by taking the FDA out of the business of harassing seniors, the FDA might be able to free up additional resources to make sure what is being firsthand imported into America from abroad is safe for human consumption.

Additionally, by striking funding from the statute, we will not be opening up the borders for a free flow of non-FDA imported drugs to be brought into the United States. Section 21 of the U.S. Code states that it is illegal to bring non-FDA-approved drugs into the U.S.

My amendment does not change that law in any way. In fact, I understand why Section 801(d)1 was added to the law. Unfortunately, as of late, its interpretation has not been used to protect American consumers, but rather, large drug manufacturers, instead.

Mrs. EMERSON. I commend the gentleman and appreciate very much his explanation of the whole issue of safety, because we have got to get a handle on this issue once and for all, and I cannot bear to tell my constituents one more time that if they go to Canada or if they go to Mexico, they can get this drug for one-third to two-thirds less than they would pay here.

It is not fair for those people, and it is not fair that our American consumers are subsidizing the rest of the world. I thank the gentleman and I urge, again, strong support for this amendment.

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the requisite number of words.

Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of this amendment. Last week the House did take some action late one night, I think Thursday night or 1½ weeks ago, that will begin to open this door. But this issue needs to be talked about a lot by this Congress.

I have a chart here which sort of demonstrates the problem. Many of us in the last week have had town hall meetings back in our districts or have met with senior citizens. We had one in my district, and I learned or relearned what we have been hearing before.

That is one example of one of my constituents who was traveling in Eu-

rope. Her traveling partner needed to get a prescription refilled. The prescription here in the United States is \$120. The price of having that prescription filled in Europe for the same drug made in the same plant by the same company under the same FDA approval was \$32.

This person has to take that drug, has to have it refilled every month, so the savings of about \$90 a month times 12 works out to about \$1,000 a year. The differences between what Americans pay and what the rest of the world pays for the same drugs is just outrageous.

Let us take a drug like Coumadin. My 82-year-old father takes Coumadin. It is a blood thinner, a very commonly prescribed drug. Here in the United States, the average price is about \$30.25 for a 30-day supply. That same drug made in the same plant by the same company under the same FDA approval in Europe sells for only \$2.85.

Mr. Speaker, we have a serious problem right now. Part of the problem is that Americans are paying a disproportionate share of the cost for research and ultimately I think a disproportionate share of the profits for the large pharmaceutical companies.

It would be easy for us as a Congress to sit here and blame the pharmaceutical companies and say, shame on them. But the truth of the matter is that it is shame on us. It is shame on us for allowing this to continue. It is shame on our own FDA because, in view of these huge differentials, we would think that the FDA would be doing something to help senior citizens and other American consumers.

The fact of the matter is that our own FDA is making matters worse. These are excerpts from an actual letter sent to a senior citizen, a very threatening letter that in effect says if they continue to do this, we believe they may be in violation of Federal law and we may have to come after them.

If someone is an 82-year-old senior citizen taking Coumadin or Synthroid or some of these other commonly-prescribed drugs and trying to save some money by getting them either through Mexico, Canada, or Europe, the last thing our Federal Government ought to do is threaten us, especially when those drugs are absolutely legal, they are FDA-approved, and the problem is the FDA has put the burden of proof on the consumer.

Finally, I support this legislation or this amendment here today, as well, because in many respects our Justice Department has failed, as well. It has failed in its oversight responsibilities to make certain that there is adequate competition and that there is not collusion between the large pharmaceutical companies.

It is not just shame on the pharmaceutical companies, it is shame on us, it is shame on the FDA, it is shame on the Justice Department. It is time that this Congress sends a very clear message that the game is over. We are not going to continue to subsidize the

starving Swiss, we are not going to continue to subsidize the rest of the world in terms of prescription drugs, especially when our own seniors have to make very difficult decisions every day in terms of whether or not they are going to get the prescriptions that they need or the food they should have.

That is simply wrong, and we should not allow it to continue. I hope we can pass this amendment tonight to send one more clear message to the folks at FDA, the folks at Justice, and the people around the world that the game is over.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the requisite number of words.

(Mrs. MALONEY of New York asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of the Crowley amendment.

1745

Mr. Chairman, I deeply support the Crowley amendment, and I am glad to see that many of our colleagues on the other side of the aisle also believe that we need to overturn the current FDA prohibition on U.S. citizens traveling to other countries to purchase prescription drugs manufactured in our country solely for individual use.

This important amendment is to decriminalize seniors who travel to Canada and Mexico for cheaper prescription drugs. I might also add that I strongly support the bill put forward by the gentleman from Maine (Mr. ALLEN) which would make seniors the same preferred customers as HMOs and also the President's plan to expand Medicare to cover prescription drugs.

These are all important measures, but this is an important amendment that addresses the issue of price discrimination being practiced by the drug manufacturers today.

In my home State of New York, breast cancer medications can cost over \$100 per prescription while they are available in Canada and Mexico to their residents for a tenth of that price. Many women in our home State and, indeed, across the country are forced to dilute their prescriptions that fight breast cancer, to cut their pills in half because they cannot afford their prescription drugs in order to get by financially. And many in my home State get on the bus every weekend to go to Canada to purchase American manufactured drugs because it is cheaper than in their own country.

Mr. Chairman, this is just plain wrong. No doctor recommends it. No person deserves this type of treatment. They should be charged, at the very least, the same that the foreign governments are charging their citizens.

Recently, I conducted a study on price discrimination on consumers in the district that I represent which is Manhattan, East and West side, and Astoria, Queens, and compared the prices that were paid by consumers in

other Nations, Mexico and Canada. I must add I was assisted in this by the gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN) and the staff of the Committee on Government Reform, and what we found was absolutely shocking.

We asked them to look at a total of eight drugs and compared the average costs in my district with the average costs paid by consumers in Mexico and Canada, and the drugs included in the study were some of the most widely prescribed drugs today. To take one example, the breast cancer drug Tamoxifen. Tamoxifen is sold under the brand name of Nolvadex, and it is the most frequently prescribed breast cancer drug in this Nation.

It is used by thousands of women across my State, across this Nation, across the country to treat early and advanced breast cancer. In fact, in 1998, the total sales of Tamoxifen were over \$520 million. Yet women in this country who need Tamoxifen must pay 10 times what seniors in Canada pay.

Our studies showed that a 1-month supply of Tamoxifen costs only \$9 in Canada, yet it costs over \$109 in my district. This means that over the course of a year, women in my district will pay roughly 1,200 more than a woman in Canada. That is a price differential of over 10,000 percent.

This is a very important lifesaving drug that thousands of women need to survive. It is simply outrageous that drug companies are taking advantage of men and women suffering from this horrible disease.

But Tamoxifen is not the only drug that costs more in New York than in Canada and probably every other State in our country. In fact, all eight of the drugs which we studied costs at least 40 percent more in my district than they do abroad. The average price differential with Canada was 112 percent; with Mexico, it was 108 percent.

Prilosec, which is the top selling drug in the Nation, it is used for heartburn and ulcers, in the last 10 years, according to the manufacturer, more than 120 million prescriptions have been written for this drug, yet seniors and other consumers in my district they have to pay over \$800 more each year for Prilosec than the consumers in Canada. Over \$1,000 dollars more than seniors in Mexico.

Zocor, which is one of the most common cholesterol-reducing drugs in this country with over 15 million prescriptions in 1998, costs almost three times as much in my district as it does in Canada, and that is a difference of over \$70 per month.

I would urge all of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support the Crowley amendment, it is long overdue, and also the Allen amendment, the President's plan and others to bring drug fairness into this country.

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent that all debate on this amendment and all amendments thereto close in 20 minutes.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Mexico?

There was no objection.

The CHAIRMAN. The Chair will divide the time evenly between the proponent of the amendment and the opponent of the amendment. The gentleman from New York (Mr. CROWLEY) and the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. SKEEN) each will control 10 minutes.

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Chairman, I yield 3½ minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DOGGETT).

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Chairman, I want to thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. CROWLEY) for his leadership on this important issue. We have an incredible situation, where those who are least able to pay for the important prescription medications that they require, our uninsured seniors and uninsured families, in fact, of all ages across the country, are asked to pay the highest prices for their prescription medications of any place in the entire world.

This burden has been imposed on those least able to pay and the gentleman from New York (Mr. CROWLEY) has come forward with a constructive proposal that will at least benefit those, who are near the Canadian and Mexican borders, since Canada does not impose price discrimination.

I think it is, however, very important to recognize that while Canada does not encourage price discrimination, this House has encouraged price discrimination. I have on two separate occasions with my colleague, the gentleman from Florida (Mrs. THURMAN) advanced before the Committee on Ways and Means proposals that would permit seniors, not just to get on a bus to Canada or Mexico, but would allow them in their own neighborhood pharmacy to get prescription medications, as the gentleman from Maine (Mr. ALLEN) has proposed, at the price that the pharmaceutical companies make those available to their most favored customers.

Unfortunately, every single Republican on the Committee on Ways and Means has joined with the pharmaceutical industry in saying no, in saying that it is right to continue charging our seniors, who are uninsured, more than anyone else in the world. So I applaud the effort of the gentleman from New York (Mr. CROWLEY), but by blocking our proposal in committee, by blocking the gentleman from Maine (Mr. ALLEN) when he offered the proposal last week, as Republicans presented not a Medicare prescription drug plan, but a political ploy here on the eve of the election, seniors have been denied the relief that they so desperately need. And this House has been denied the opportunity to extend to all Americans what the gentleman from New York (Mr. CROWLEY) would tonight extend at least to those near the Canadian and Mexican borders to gain access to bring more reasonably priced medications.

Last week, I joined with some seniors in central Texas to explore this issue of at all places, the Austin Humane Society. I learned through a study that we conducted that in this country if you have four legs and a tail and need a particular prescription drug, if you can say meow or woof or arf, you get a much better deal on prescriptions than if you are simply a senior, who is in serious need of medication.

I know that the gentleman from Maine (Mr. ALLEN) and others have made similar findings in other parts of the country. We demonstrated that on one very important arthritis drug, Lodine, for example, that the manufacturer is charging 188 percent more to those who would use the exact same quality and quantity for animals, for a dog, a cat or a horse or a cow, than it does for a senior, who lacks insurance.

I think that such price discrimination is wrong, the kind of discrimination that says it is okay for the same quality and quantity and type of drugs for manufacturers price to charge the wholesaler 188 percent more than for an individual, a senior, who is in need of that drug. That is the kind of price discrimination that groups masquerading under names like Citizens for Better Medicare, which really is a front for the pharmaceutical industry, are imposing on us.

Tonight the gentleman from New York (Mr. CROWLEY) proposes that we do just a little bit about it, and I encourage the House to adopt his approach, but hope that eventually we can move on to a broader proposal like that advanced by the gentleman from Maine (Mr. ALLEN).

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself the balance of the time.

Mr. Chairman, I certainly understand the concerns of my colleague from New York (Mr. CROWLEY), and I do not feel that a restriction on a regulatory agency is the way to achieve prescription drug price reform.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. KINGSTON).

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. CROWLEY) for yielding me the time.

Mr. Chairman, I wanted to speak in favor of the amendment, and I do so with the greatest respect, of course, to the committee upon which I serve. But if we look at the seniors who are having to go across the border to get prescription drugs and other people who need it, they are not doing this because it is convenient, they are not doing it because they want to, they are not doing it because they want to support a Canadian pharmacy. They are doing it because they have to economically.

My dad is from Buffalo, New York, and I went to school in Michigan, and I know on those border States there is a lot of economic overlap and social overlap and everything else, and so for

them to go to Canada to get cheaper drugs is not that unusual. But then imagine being 82 years old and getting a letter like this that says, however, future shipments of these or similar drugs may be refused admissions; that is very disturbing if we have to take something for high cholesterol or something for a heart condition. What am I doing?

These people are World War II veterans. They do not want to go around breaking the law, and that is what the implication is from FDA once they get it.

Mr. Chairman, look at these price differences. I think we cannot expect people who can save as much as 50 percent on a drug not to take advantage of it and to go overseas. But the second question about this is why are the drugs so less expensive in Canada than they are here, and I think that is where it becomes a universal quest for States that are not on the border. I mean, we need to know how come we can get Prozac for \$18.50 and over here, it is \$36. For Claritin, \$44 versus \$8.75. Prilosec, \$109 versus \$39.25.

We owe it to our constituents. Even if they are in Iowa, in the middle of the country geographically, if we are in a central State, domestically, in the United States of America, we would still need to know and we need to be able to tell our constituents why these drug prices are so different.

That is why I am supporting this amendment. I think, number one, we have to give people on the border States an opportunity; number two, we have to explore what are these differences, and this will help promote that debate.

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. MINGE).

Mr. MINGE. Mr. Chairman, the amendment that is before us this afternoon brings in the sharp relief the anomaly that exists with respect to the cost of prescription drugs in North America. It simply is unconscionable that if we travel to Mexico or to Canada we can buy prescription drugs for dramatically less than we can here within the United States.

It is unacceptable that seniors, who are the most vulnerable, who have the least in terms of resources to pay for these prescription drugs are the ones that are victimized to the greatest extent by this situation.

It is also an irony that is not lost on the seniors in this country that their pets can access these same prescription drugs for dramatically less than they can.

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Mr. Chairman, I would like to associate myself with the comments of my colleagues from both sides of the aisle that have spoken in favor of the Crowley amendment, and I urge that all of our colleagues join in supporting this amendment to the appropriations bill.

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Chairman, how much time is remaining?

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from New York (Mr. CROWLEY) has 3 minutes remaining.

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, as the sponsor of this amendment, let me say that I am somewhat surprised at the support that this amendment has received from the other side of the aisle. I am astounded, quite frankly. I appreciate the support of many of the individuals who have spoken to me, some of whom are friends of mine from the other side of the aisle. I appreciate their comments on the floor. In no way do I believe that they are not being sincere at this point in time.

But just under 2 weeks ago, we stood here on this floor; and we passed a bill that I call to the floor a sham; and I continue to call that bill a sham.

The amendment that my colleagues have before them today is really of very little consequence, and I am the sponsor of this amendment. It basically takes away the authority of the FDA to prosecute any individual who re-imports drugs that were made in this country. But it really is an attempt to shine a light on price discrimination in the United States.

But what this amendment does show, Mr. Chairman, in my opinion, is the hypocrisy of this House at times. In 1 week we can pass a sham of a bill, and a week and a half later, come back and pass an amendment that in and of itself will not go far enough to help most of the seniors in this country who are not insured, seniors who struggle on a weekly basis to pay rent, to pay their bills.

My constituent from Jackson Heights, Ann Greenbaum, pays \$300 for a particular drug that her son needs, the exact same drug, and pays \$15 under his plan. I will not say how old Mrs. Greenbaum is. She is considerably older than her son. These are the individuals we are trying to help.

My amendment, Mr. Chairman, will not help directly Ms. Greenbaum. What it does do, though, is highlight the hypocrisy of this House, how we can pass a bill that will not help the Mrs. Greenbaums of the world, will help some individuals, but certainly will not help enough.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. CROWLEY).

The question was taken; and the Chairman announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to House Resolution 538, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. CROWLEY) will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 52 OFFERED BY MR. ROYCE

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 52 offered by Mr. ROYCE:
Strike section 741.

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Chairman, I reserve a point of order against the amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. SKEEN) reserves a point of order.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Chairman, the rationale behind this amendment is simple. Hard-working taxpayers should not have to subsidize the advertising costs of America's private corporations. In my view, that is what the Market Access Program does.

Since 1986, the Federal Government has extracted \$2 billion from the tax-paying public and has spent it for advertising on the part of larger corporations and cooperatives in subsidies to basically underwrite their marketing programs in foreign countries.

I think the American people would agree that their money could be better spent on deficit reduction or education or the environment or tax cuts rather than these advertising budgets.

Originally, this bill contained a provision quietly inserted that would have allowed American tax dollars to be spent promoting the sale of luxury mink products in foreign countries. However, once we discovered their plan to expand eligibility in the MAP program, proponents reversed the course and agreed to strike the provision in the bill.

But an important question remains, if it is wrong to spend hard-earned American tax dollars on the promotion of mink products, why is it acceptable to spend those same tax dollars overseas to promote other products?

Last April, the GAO released an independent report, a report that was requested by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) and myself and Senator SCHUMER. That report questioned the economic benefits of the foreign agricultural service study, which had advanced the arguments to begin with in the favor of this bill.

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman from California yield for a parliamentary inquiry?

Mr. ROYCE. I yield to the gentleman from Iowa.

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Chairman, what amendment are we debating?

Mr. ROYCE. Amendment number 52 to eliminate the Market Access Program.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from California is correct.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Chairman, reclaiming my time, I would just like to share that in the report the GAO determined that the Foreign Agricultural Service overstated the program's economic input, used a faulty methodology, which is inconsistent with Office of Management and Budget cost benefit guidelines.

The GAO also determined that the evidence contained within the relevant

studies which estimate MAP's impact on specific markets is inconclusive. In fact, for every targeted market in which MAP funds demonstrated a positive effect, the studies found other target markets in which there was no discernible effect at all.

So various studies commissioned by Congress, commissioned by the Trade Promotion Coordinating Committee have determined the economic benefits of the MAP program to be overstated, to be inconclusive, and to be speculative.

But even if one does believe the flawed studies used by the proponents, one has all the more reasons to support the amendment. Because if MAP works, then corporations and trade associations ought to be spending their own money on their advertising budgets. The taxpayers should not be spending it.

Finally, MAP proponents have argued that due to recent reforms, big corporations no longer receive MAP funds. It is true that, in order to correct some of the more egregious abuses of the Market Access Program of which we pointed out in the past, reforms were enacted that limit companies to 5 years of assistance in a particular country. After this time, companies were to be graduated from that country's market.

While in fact some of the corporations were graduated in 1998, the graduation requirements were waived for cooperatives. What was the result of that waiver? The result was that large corporations received the subsidies.

We simply do not need this wasteful program. Let us be honest. Most American businesses do not benefit and do not try to take advantage of government handouts like MAP. In the case of MAP, as in most corporate welfare programs, beneficiaries consist primarily of politically well-connected corporations and trade associations.

Most, if not all of these organizations, would advertise their products overseas even without MAP funds, and they probably would work much harder to ensure that the money is well spent.

Mr. Chairman, Congress should end the practice of wasting tax dollars on special interest spending programs that unfairly take money from hard-working families to help profitable private companies increase their bottom line.

MAP is a massive corporate welfare program in my opinion, and we should eliminate it. I urge the support of the amendment.

POINT OF ORDER

The CHAIRMAN. Does the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. SKEEN) insist on his point of order?

Mr. SKEEN. Yes, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. The Chair finds that the amendment offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) proposes to strike from the bill a section already stricken on a point of order and, therefore, the amendment is not in order.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Chairman, my question to the parliamentarian was whether offering amendment No. 51 or No. 52 would be in order. I believe he said 52. If I understand correctly, then the answer would have been No. 51.

It is amendment No. 51 that could be offered.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) has the apologies of the Chair. In fact, the gentleman would be correct in offering amendment No. 51.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Chairman, that being the case, that concludes my opening arguments on amendment No. 51.

AMENDMENT NO. 51 OFFERED BY MR. ROYCE

The CHAIRMAN. The Chair will entertain the offer of the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE).

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate amendment No. 51.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 51 offered by Mr. ROYCE:
Page 96, after line 4, insert the following:

TITLE IX—ADDITIONAL GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 901. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to award any new allocations under the market access program or to pay the salaries of personnel to award such allocations.

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

Mr. Chairman, this is a near-annual amendment, so I will not speak at length.

For many small companies in the United States, this program is the only way they have of promoting their products in markets overseas. Small companies cannot afford sophisticated marketing campaigns or presence overseas. The Market Access Program helps them reach those markets, increase their sales, increase employment, and, ultimately, benefit the farmers and ranchers that produce the raw materials.

I would also add, Mr. Chairman, that our competitors in Europe are spending far more than the authorized \$90 million a year that the Market Access Program provides.

Mr. Chairman, I oppose this amendment and urge my colleagues to vote "no."

Mr. BOYD. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the requisite number of words.

Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the gentleman's amendment also. I think, as the distinguished gentleman from New Mexico (Chairman SKEEN) has said, the Market Access Program is a program that comes under attack every year in this appropriations process. But yet the Market Access Program is designed to help small and independents producers, small businesses get into foreign markets.

This Congress basically has said to our agricultural producers that the savior for your future is foreign markets. But, yet, we are unwilling, we

make an attempt on an annual basis to eliminate a program which helps small businesses and agricultural producers get into those markets.

Mr. Chairman, I know the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) quoted some report. I would like to read from a report that was done by Deloitte and Touche, who was hired by the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture to evaluate MAP. I quote, "MAP is a significant source of support for new companies and new products entering foreign markets. MAP support is also beneficial to small firms as they begin to export. Our cases suggest that, without MAP support, many small firms would not be capable of carrying out standard marketing programs in key foreign markets."

Mr. Chairman, I encourage the Members to defeat the amendment.

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the requisite number of words.

Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to this amendment. The MAP program is something that works. It not only enables our products to be sold overseas and to be promoted over there, but we have to keep in mind that any dollar spent in the MAP program are matched by the commodity groups themselves. So if one is a pork producer, one puts one's dollars in the program. If one is a corn or soybean producer or beef producer or rice, whatever product it is, one has to match those funds.

It is extraordinarily important that we maintain the market access and to promote our products overseas and to show the world the quality products that we have in America and to find markets for our products overseas.

The MAP program in years past had some problems with it. It has been reformed. It is not putting any particular hamburger brand or something promoting those type of products overseas. These are commodities that are being promoted overseas. It is extraordinarily important that we maintain this program.

I would just like to say also, the gentleman on an earlier amendment talked about the assistance that is needed for agriculture and the payments and the emergencies and all of that. Well, this will go farther to help us avoid those types of problems in the future than probably any other program. At a time when especially in the Southeast Asian market where they are recovering, we need to be there promoting American agricultural products so that we can regain the share of market that was lost before when they went through their financial crisis.

So just in closing, Mr. Chairman, I would strongly urge Members to defeat this amendment. It is very important for American agriculture to maintain this very small assistance for our farmers.

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Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the requisite number of words.

Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to the Royce amendment. The Market Access Program, or MAP, is a valuable program and it serves our Nation's agricultural growers and our producers well. MAP has been a tremendous asset in opening overseas markets and keeping U.S. agricultural exports competitive in the world market. They do not play on an even playing field without the help of MAP.

As many of my colleagues know, I am privileged to represent Sonoma and Marin Counties, one of our Nation's premier wine-making regions of the country; and the wine industry is vital to my area. But it is not just vital to the people I work for in my congressional district, it is also vital to the entire State of California. In fact, California produces more than 90 percent of the United States' wine exports.

While our wine speaks for itself, we still need help crossing the borders. The same is true with fruits and almonds and the many other products where the U.S. excels. We also face uneven trade barriers around the globe with these products, and we need assistance from USDA. This assistance is very important.

This is why I am a steadfast enthusiastic supporter of this program. I regret that the program has been a perennial target for budgetary cuts, but I am very pleased that Congress each time, time and again, has understood the worthiness of this program and has, in their wisdom, continued to fund the MAP program.

I urge my colleagues to continue its support for the Market Access Program and to vote against the Royce amendment.

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the requisite number of words in opposition to the amendment.

Mr. Chairman, we face challenges in this country if we are to maintain a strong agricultural industry. The challenge right now is that other countries are doing better than we are helping their farmers. As much as this country works to operate this particular program of marketing help to get the word out of the quality of our products and the price of our products, our appropriations are flat and we are losing ground with other countries.

For example, I would call to the attention for the gentleman from California that the European Union spends \$92 million more than we do. Twice as much! The Cairns Group, countries of Australia, Canada, New Zealand, Brazil and others spend \$306 million more than we do. So imagine, not only are countries such as the E.U. spending more than the United States in their so-called MAP program, in their effort to enhance marketing and promote their farmers' products, they are subsidizing their farmers up to five times as much as we do.

So on the one hand they are subsidizing their farmers to reduce the price they must charge for their ex-

ports and additionally they spend more on promotion—Huge competition for our American farmers, and in effect right now with the disastrous situation for farmers and ranchers in this country, it will put many of our farmers out of business. Again, not only are those countries subsidizing heavily to reduce their costs, but also they are spending much more than we are, double what we are, for example in Europe, to market their particular products at this lower subsidized price.

We have to make a decision in this country whether we are going to keep a strong ag industry in the United States. I think we should! This amendment should be defeated.

The export decline of the past several years has been harsh for America's farmers and ranchers, as well as for policy makers trying to address their concerns. While our export programs will never be a substitute for strong global markets and good agricultural policy we must ensure that the programs we administer are effective and efficient.

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the requisite number of words.

Mr. Chairman, I do not claim to be from an agriculture rich district. In Brooklyn and Queens we do not grow all that much, or at least all that much that is addressed here in this bill, but I can tell my colleagues that I have been someone who has supported agriculture bills in this House because I recognize that there is a confluence of interest that exists. But just the same way frequently those of us who advocate for urban programs are called to task to defend some things in the bills that we support that often are troublesome, such is the case here for my friends who support agriculture spending.

Just so it is clear to those who are watching this debate, who are not as familiar with agriculture programs, like I am, this is essentially a program that pays for advertising for some of the biggest corporations in the United States. In the life of this program, to give some sense of context to this, McDonald's has received over \$7 million. The Sunkist Corporation received nearly \$7 million. Ernest and Julio Gallo received \$5 million of taxpayer money to help, in essence, advertise their products overseas.

The argument that has been made a couple of times on this floor is, listen, we have to do it because there are those in other countries who are paying to subsidize their products and advertise them as well. Well, we are not in other countries. We do not represent the taxpayers in those countries, and we can argue the efficacy of doing that at another time. But the question we have to ask is, is this the wisest way for us to form coalitions behind agriculture programs and help family farmers that we have heard so much about on the floor this past couple of weeks.

Is the Pillsbury Corporation, the Wrangler Corporation, Burger King,

Campbell Soup, General Mills, Hershey Foods, are these companies that really need our help with their advertising budget?

This is an amendment, and I commend the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) and the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) for offering it, this is an amendment that simply says let us have a strong agriculture policy. Let us have an agriculture policy that helps our farmers stay in business, that helps those of us in urban areas to continue to thrive because the agriculture sector is doing as well as possible. Let us try to help people from the bottom up.

This is a classic case of going into the corporate boardrooms and saying here is a bag of money because that is essentially what the MAP program is. If my colleagues think that Tyson Food needs some help, then the MAP program is good; if my colleagues think the Ocean Spray Cranberries Company needs some help, then the MAP program is probably one my colleagues would support.

In order to ensure that we are able to keep these coalitions together that help agriculture bills and help other bills pass, we have to weed out, no pun intended, some of the things that are truly weak in these programs, and this is such a case. I would urge my colleagues to support this reduction in the MAP program.

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent that all debate on this amendment and all amendments thereto close in 10 minutes.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Mexico?

There was no objection.

The CHAIRMAN. The Chair will divide the time equally between the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) proponent of the amendment, and an opponent of the amendment, the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. SKEEN). The gentleman from California will control 5 minutes and the gentleman from New Mexico will control 5 minutes.

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. LATHAM).

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Chairman, I just wanted to clarify something that was just previously said.

McDonald's does not get a dime of money, Tyson Food does not get a dime of money, the Sunkist Corporation does not get a dime of money. That is old news. As I mentioned earlier, this has been reformed.

The only thing we are promoting here are the products themselves. No brand names. No corporate brand names. So that argument is totally bogus. I want every Member to understand that. This promotion goes to promote pork, to promote eggs, to promote beef, soybeans, corn, whatever.

There is no McDonald's, there is no Sunkist, there is no Tyson. And for someone to say that is totally erro-

neous, and I want to just clarify that for the House.

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. FARR).

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman very much for yielding me this time.

Before anyone votes for this amendment, think what is going on in America. This is the harvest season. This is time we celebrate. People are eating corn on the cob, having back-yard barbecues, watermelons are being eaten. This is the time we are celebrating county fairs all over the United States. We celebrate agriculture, our number one industry.

Our number one industry needs to find markets. We grow more food in the United States than we can consume. If we are going to keep the prices of agriculture low (and frankly I think in many cases they are too low), we need to keep the markets open for growers to be able to sell their crops.

So my colleagues, before voting for this amendment, which is a bad amendment, wake up and smell the coffee. Every time we watch television and we see Juan Valdez telling us to buy Colombian coffee, not to buy a particular brand but to buy Colombian coffee, that is market promotion. We see wine industries in Italy trying to sell us Italian wine. That is market promotion.

American consumers are being sold by market promotion by foreign competitors all the time and we do not realize that we need to do the same for our crops in this global market. So wake up and smell that coffee. Strike down this amendment. It is a bad amendment precisely because it will not allow the small businesses, that this bill emphasizes, to be able to take advantage of this expanded program. Not those large corporations, which was falsely stated, that use to get a lot of the market promotion. That stuff was struck out in 1998.

This market promotion helps keep agriculture viable in the United States. It is absolutely essential that we keep our markets open. And we have a trade surplus. That we keep this all in the black. So let us keep America strong, keep agriculture strong, and strike down this amendment. Thank you.

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Chairman, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS).

(Mr. HASTINGS of Washington asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to this amendment.

I am very aware of the problems facing the agricultural economy. It is abundantly clear that the prosperity of our economy as a whole does not extend to our farmers and ranchers. Although agricultural producers' problems are as diverse as the crops they grow, there is one point on which they all agree—the need for more export markets. There is no question

that exports are already vital to the health of the agriculture sector. Approximately one-third of all the harvested acreage in the United States is exported, and 62 percent of these exports are of high value products. Is it any wonder then that farmers and ranchers suffer when exports decrease, as they have in recent years, falling from \$60 billion in 1996 to \$49 billion last year?

Fortunately, we have effective tools at our disposal to enhance our nation's agricultural exports. The Market Access Program (MAP) is a program that works—and works well—without distorting world markets through export subsidies. How? By providing matching funds for commodity groups and small businesses to conduct market research, technical assistance, trade servicing, advertising and consumer promotions abroad. The American farmer produces some of the highest quality food products in the world, but we can't assume that every international consumer knows about them. MAP helps fill this education gap and allow our producers to create the new export opportunities so sorely needed by growers and processors.

A prime example of how these programs work to benefit agricultural producers took place in my district earlier this month. The National Potato Promotion Board and the Washington State Potato Commission sponsored a tour and a series of briefings on processed potato products, and dehydrated potatoes in particular, for food industry research and development executives from the Philippines, China, Korea, Japan, and Mexico. These representatives learned about American potato products and how they can be used in consumer products abroad. This tour, partially funded by MAP dollars, will likely result in new opportunities to export value-added agricultural products.

I believe that it is simple common sense to support this kind of successful promotion effort. That is why I introduced legislation to increase funding for MAP and the Foreign Market Development Program (FMDF) earlier this year. This legislation, H.R. 3593, the "Agricultural Market Access and Development Act," authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to spend up to \$200 million—but not less than the current \$90 million—on MAP. Likewise, the bill requires that a minimum of \$35 million be spent on the promotion of U.S. bulk commodities overseas through FMDF.

These increases are funded using unspent funds for the Export Enhancement Program (EEP), usually around \$500 million per year. EEP promotes U.S. exports through direct subsidies and is therefore subject to Uruguay Round restrictions and slated for reduction.

Right now, foreign countries directly subsidize their agricultural exports and spend far more than the U.S. does each year promoting their products abroad. MAP and FMDF are the only programs that give our farmers and ranchers the chance to compete on a level playing field worldwide.

These are proven and effective programs—and they are good for our producers. It's time to expand MAP and FMDF so that more growers can benefit from export opportunities.

Mr. Chairman, for these reasons I rise in strong opposition to my friend's amendment to cut funding for the Market Access Program. We must work to open up opportunities to our farmers, not hamstring efforts to ensure agriculture success and independence. I urge my

colleagues to vote no on this amendment and support a level playing field for American agriculture in the world market.

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Chairman, I yield the balance of the time to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. MINGE).

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. Minge) is recognized for 2 minutes.

Mr. MINGE. Mr. Chairman, I would like to thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

I certainly share with my colleague from California who introduced this amendment a level of discomfort with the market promotion program, the way it was structured several years ago. I think all of us in this body did. But the fact of the matter is the program has been adjusted. The most difficult to justify portions of the program have been eliminated, and what we are left with is generally a program that is promoting American agricultural products in foreign markets in a way that benefits farmers as opposed to benefiting corporate America.

I visited some of these offices, particularly in Japan. I have seen the men and the women that work for the Federal Government and work for some of the commodity groups present their material to the public in those countries, and I know that what they are doing is introducing American agricultural products to foreign consumers to build markets for American agricultural products, to open new opportunities for farmers in the United States, and I urge my colleagues to join in supporting this program.

There is no sector of the American economy that is more troubled than farming. We need to make sure that we explore every opportunity for America's farmers, not slam the door shut at this point in our economic history.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Chairman, the Market Access Program is the leftover product of two previously failed USDA programs, the Market Promotion Program and the Targeted Export Assistance Program, and MAP funnels tax dollars to corporate trade associations and cooperatives to advertise private products overseas.

Now, let me reiterate my position here. I think advertising is a function of the private sector, not of the taxpayers. While proponents of the program claim that it boosts exports, claims that it creates jobs, there is no evidence to support it. General Accounting Office studies indicate that this program has no discernible effect on U.S. agricultural exports. The private sector knows how to advertise. It does not need government interference. Taxpayer dollars merely replace money that would be spent by private companies on their own advertising.

Provisions in the 1996 farm bill have attempted to reform MAP, but thus far have failed. The GAO audit and other audits find it overstated, inconclusive, and speculative in terms of its effect.

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Although the percentage of large companies that get MAP money have decreased, a number of corporations still receive millions of dollars indirectly through trade associations. The studies show that about three-quarters of the money indirectly benefits these corporations.

Under this year's bill, an attempt also was made to expand MAP. Fortunately, this provision was stricken; and now we go to the question of the program itself. I believe it is now time to end the program.

In the last 10 years, American taxpayers have shelled out \$1 billion for this subsidy. I think the American people would agree that their money could be better spent, and I urge adoption of the amendment.

Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska. Mr. Chairman, I rise to oppose the Royce amendment to eliminate the Market Access Program (MAP).

Several weeks ago, the House passed legislation to grant PNTR to China. One of the best arguments for PNTR is that it will grant U.S. producers access to the Chinese market, much of which has been closed for too many years.

MAP is the program that will help U.S. producers—not large agribusinesses—gain that access. Exporting is a challenge, even for the most experienced. Many individual producers and small companies find it difficult to break into it and to be competitive internationally. MAP helps our producers, primarily through grants to state departments of agriculture, to overcome these hurdles by partially funding international market research and trade missions to foreign countries.

Access to the Chinese market does us no good if we can't take advantage of it. MAP will help our producers develop it and become better at international trade and marketing. Reject this short-sighted amendment. Support MAP.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE).

The question was taken; and the Chairman announced that the yeas appeared to have it.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote, and pending that, I make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to House Resolution 538, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

Mr. Chairman, in full committee I offered an amendment to deal with the concentration of economic power in the processing industry in this country. We cannot offer that amendment on the floor because of budget limitations, but I want to make clear that before this bill returns from conference, it ought to do a number of things.

I wanted to add funding for the Grain Inspection Packers and Stockyards Ad-

ministration, for instance, and to the Agriculture Department's Office of General Counsel to bring both accounts up to the amount requested by the President. The reason that I wanted to do that is very simple: we can throw all the money in the world that we want to at farm programs, but unless we deal with the fact that the agriculture industry is largely dominated by oligopolies, we are not going to do very much to help either the consumer or the farmer in the process.

There are four companies that now control 81 percent of cattle purchases, beef processing and wholesale marketing, and in only 5 years we have seen the margin between the price paid to farmers and wholesale price of beef jump by 24 percent. It just doesn't apply to the beef industry.

If you look at the pork market, four companies now control 56 percent of the pork market, and the margin between the wholesale price of pork and the price paid to the farmer has jumped by more than 50 percent.

We have had a continuous consolidation in the grain industry and in the dairy industry and an amazing concentration of economic power in the poultry industry, where giant corporations such as Perdue and Tyson's are not only squeezing farmers, but also abusing workers and wreaking havoc on the environment in the process.

To really address these problems, it seems to me we need substantive legislation, for example to grant the Agriculture Department authority to review mergers and acquisitions affecting farming and food, and we need to do a variety of other things. That, obviously, is beyond the scope of this bill. But this bill, for instance, in addition to the other funding shortfalls that I have discussed, also has a serious shortfall in the Office of General Counsel. We need to correct those problems when this bill comes back from conference.

As I say, we are precluded from offering an amendment to do anything major on this right now because of the Budget Act, but it is my full intention to see to it that when we go to conference, this matter is corrected; because until we do correct it, the consumers are going to continue to get euchred by the situation, and so will virtually every small farmer in America.

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

Mr. Chairman, as you may know, I have an amendment at the desk. I rise to explain why I will not be offering that amendment.

Mr. Chairman, that amendment deals with the provisions of this bill which provide funds for the inspection and facilitation of agricultural imports, particularly those from the Islamic Republic of Iran. In March of this year the administration lifted our ban on imports from Iran as to four products, three of them agricultural products; and I believe that lifting this ban may have been the result of undue optimism, or at least premature optimism.

The rhetoric in Tehran has improved, but the actions of the Iranian government have not. A year and a half ago, 13 Jews were arrested in the southern Iranian city of Shiraz. They have been subjected to show trials. Ten have been convicted. The average sentence is 9 years. Some of the sentences go up to 13 years.

That is why, Mr. Chairman, I drafted an amendment that would say that those three agricultural imports cannot come into this country, or at least none of our taxpayer dollars could be used for the necessary inspection.

But just as I believe the lifting of the ban on those imports may have reflected premature optimism, I do not want to be guilty of premature pessimism. It is quite possible, I think, that the Iranian president or their appellate court system will in the next few weeks vacate those verdicts, or at least release the prisoners. So I think it is best that I not offer this amendment, especially because this amendment, if adopted, would lock us into a particular position for an entire fiscal year; and it would deny the use of those funds to facilitate imports from Iran for the entire fiscal year.

Instead, I think it better that I will join with others in introducing legislation that will provide for a ban on all Iranian exports to the United States, agricultural and non-agricultural, until such time as the President of the U.S. is able to certify that the Iranian government has made substantial improvements in the treatment of its religious minorities.

Mr. Chairman, the charges against the 13 jailed in Shiraz were absurd, since no Jew in Iran is allowed to come anywhere near anything of military or security significance.

Mr. Chairman, the trials were reminiscent of those of Joseph Stalin, show trials with forced confessions, no evidence and very little specificity to the charges; and the verdicts were harsh, 10 convictions subjecting the defendants to a total of 89 years in prison.

Many governments around the world have said that these trials are the yardstick by which Iran must be judged as to whether it has made improvements in human rights and whether it has made improvements in treating its religious minorities. Clearly, Iran has not yet improved its behavior, even as there has been hopeful rhetoric.

Mr. Chairman, I believe that we should adopt the slogan "no justice, no caviar." We should certainly not allow the import of caviar, pistachios, dried fruit, or carpets into this country until justice is achieved.

Not only is a ban on the imports to the United States from Iran helpful in that it applies some pressure economically to Iran, it is also the strongest way that we can signal our position and puts us in a stronger position to deal with other countries: Germany, where the Iranian foreign minister is visiting today; Japan, which, unfortu-

nately, is funding hydroelectric facilities in Iran; and the World Bank, which, unfortunately, approved, but did not yet disburse, a loan of \$231 million.

So, Mr. Chairman, my hope is that this amendment will turn out to be unnecessary; that the authorities in Iran will reverse the decision of the trial court, or at least pardon the defendants. If that does not occur, then we will be in the position to move with a separate bill that will allow more flexibility and a greater scope than is allowed in an amendment to an appropriations bill. A separate bill will apply to non-agricultural goods, as well as agricultural goods, and provide the flexibility of a presidential certification.

In addition, I would hope that if a month from now these obscenely harsh verdicts are not reversed, that the conference committee will see fit to add my amendment to this Agricultural Appropriations bill before it comes back to this House.

So that explains, why, Mr. Chairman, I will not be offering my amendment.

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word for the purpose of entering into a colloquy with the chairman of the Subcommittee on Agriculture of the Committee on Appropriations.

Mr. Chairman, I want to bring to your attention the fire blight problem which destroyed many apple and pear crops in Michigan. While back home this past week, I personally saw the devastation in literally orchard after orchard along the road.

In May, a severe disaster struck Michigan, all but destroying the apple and pear crops in this highly intensive agriculture region. In addition to extremely wet, warm, and humid weather conditions throughout the month, a severe thunderstorm passed over southwest Michigan in May, causing severe damage to fruit trees and fruit crops. The thunderstorm's hail, high wind, and heavy rain scarred and wounded the leaves, limbs and fruit on the trees. In the case of apple and pear trees, these wounds provided an avenue for the fire blight to enter the trees, causing severe and widespread disease.

The result is that nearly 7,650 acres of the 17,000 acres of apple trees in this region have been severely affected by fire blight. Some of the remaining 9,000-some acres are affected as well, depending upon apple variety; but the trees are expected to recover in future years. Of the acreage severely affected, we suspect that nearly some 2,000 acres of apple trees will, in fact, die. The remainder may be saved, but their production in the future will certainly be significantly reduced.

My governor, Governor Engler, in conjunction with myself, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. HOEKSTRA), the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS), the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. SMITH), and Senator ABRAHAM have requested Secretary Glickman to

designate the affected counties in Michigan as a disaster area, which should help to some degree.

However, more must be done. I am pleased to report that Senator ABRAHAM in the other body is working with his colleagues to provide some additional funds for relief as this body considers the fiscal year 2001 agriculture appropriation bill.

I would ask the gentleman from New Mexico (Chairman SKEEN) that as this bill moves through the legislative process that the gentleman work with our colleagues in the other body to provide much-needed relief to growers in southwest Michigan whose crops have been devastated by this fire blight.

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. UPTON. I yield to the gentleman from New Mexico.

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman from Michigan for his attention to this important issue. I give him my assurance that as this bill moves through the legislative process, I will do all that I can to work with the other body to provide much needed funding for the growers in southwest Michigan whose crops have been devastated by fire blight.

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Chairman, reclaiming my time, I thank the gentleman for his assurance, and I look forward to working with him in the future to make sure that we get needed assistance back to our growers in the Midwest.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. COBURN

Mr. COBURN. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. COBURN:
Insert before the short title the following title:

TITLE IX—ADDITIONAL GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 901. None of the amounts made available in this Act for the Food and Drug Administration may be expended to take any action (administrative or otherwise) to interfere with the importation into the United States of drugs that have been approved for use within the United States and were manufactured in an FDA-approved facility in the United States, Canada, or Mexico.

Mr. COBURN. Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent that time for debate on this amendment be limited to 10 minutes in opposition and 10 minutes in favor.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oklahoma?

There was no objection.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) will control 10 minutes, and a Member opposed to the amendment will control 10 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN).

Mr. COBURN. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself 3 minutes.

Mr. Chairman, first of all I want to thank the gentleman from Maine (Mr. BALDACCIO), the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. GUTKNECHT), and several others for their work in this area.

All this bill says is we are not going to intimidate seniors who are following the law, following NAFTA, and bringing drugs into this country from Canada or Mexico, as long as those are approved drugs and they have been manufactured in FDA-approved facilities.

Mr. Chairman, we have debated this issue to a great extent. All this amendment will do is say "hands off, FDA" on legal and qualified manufactured products. It does not have anything to do with limiting their ability on safety; it does not apply to anything but a legal drug. So that means my patients who now are trying to get their drugs from Canada, from Oklahoma, can in fact have a prescription mailed to Canada or Mexico and have it filled and shipped across the border, and the FDA cannot intimidate them and say they cannot do that. That is all we are talking about, drugs that are manufactured in this country and manufactured in FDA-approved facilities that are legal drugs.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there a Member that rises in opposition to the amendment?

If not, does the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) yield time?

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Mr. COBURN. Mr. Chairman, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Maine (Mr. BALDACC).

Mr. BALDACC. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman from Oklahoma for his leadership in this area and his knowledge and the way he has been able to work together in a bipartisan fashion to get this issue addressed.

This is a very important issue to the State of Maine which borders Canada and which sees its citizens go regularly across the border in frustration as to why those same particular medicines cost so much less than they do in their own country. Recognizing that, the pharmaceutical industry, which I do not intend to vilify, has only said that they charge whatever the market will bear. I recognize, and this amendment recognizes, that many American citizens cannot bear what the pharmaceuticals are charging.

Mr. Chairman, I encourage my colleagues to support this amendment to be able to send a message that this is not an acceptable practice. We are watching many of our seniors have to split their drugs in half or not take them at all because they cannot afford them and they can go right across the border for the same drug that is manufactured in this country at a third or a fourth of the price, and only recognizing that it is the companies, in charging what they are charging, that is the differential between what they are paying and what the counterparts across the border will pay. We must ensure that the taxpayers who are providing the basic research at NIH and other research facilities, building the elemental research which the pharma-

ceutical industry builds upon those tax dollars, that the taxpayers of the United States have an opportunity to access in an affordable fashion.

Mr. Chairman, I commend the gentleman for his leadership in working together in a bipartisan fashion to address this issue and many other Members that are working on this issue, in the final analysis, to make sure that at the end of the day, the seniors have affordable, accessible prescription medicines so that they do not have to worry about the quality of their life and be able to be independent and live out their lives in a quality environment.

I support the amendment.

Mr. COBURN. Mr. Chairman, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New Hampshire (Mr. BASS).

(Mr. BASS asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BASS. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of this pending amendment which would do more than any single action to lower the prices in this country for prescription medications.

Mr. COBURN. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) yield?

Mr. COBURN. I yield to the gentleman from Ohio.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Chairman, I would ask very simple questions of those who have drafted this amendment and are offering it. Do the gentlemen wish to do anything in this amendment that would lessen the inspection that the FDA does of drugs that may be manufactured or sold in another country and used by U.S. citizens? I want to understand the full intent of the amendment, because when the FDA Commissioner came before our subcommittee and I asked the question about drugs from other countries, she said that they could not give certainty that they were of equal quality.

Mr. COBURN. Mr. Chairman, reclaiming my time, the drugs that are produced in FDA-approved facilities, they do assure at this time that they are made to the same standard as the drugs that are made in this country. Otherwise, they would not have their approved labeling from the FDA, and that is true in all FDA-approved facilities.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for the clarification.

Mr. COBURN. Mr. Chairman, reclaiming my time, I want to discuss a little bit about this problem.

We spent 2 weeks ago talking about the crisis in the pharmaceutical industry as far as our seniors in getting drugs. It is not just our seniors; it is everybody in this country is paying too much for drugs. There are five things that could happen tomorrow to lower the price for prescription drugs in this country. This is a small step that would help. It is not even one of the major ones.

The number one thing is to have a competitive market for prices in this country. We believe in free enterprise; there is not free enterprise in the pharmaceutical industry right now. All one has to do is look at the FTC Web site. There is documented collusion. We need to address that.

Number two, our President needs to stand up and bully pulpit the pharmaceutical industry's prices. We do not need price controls. We need competition. Competition allocates scarce resources better than any type of price control ever will. What we need is real competition. Ms. Reno has received a letter signed by me asking for an investigation of which as of today, now, 4 weeks later, there has been no response on the documented areas of collusion within the drug industry.

Number three, doctors need to do a better job giving generics to seniors, and they are not.

Finally, number four, the pharmaceutical companies are not all bad. They do a lot of good things. There are private, indigent programs in the pharmaceutical industry that the health professions need to utilize. They will supply their drugs.

Mr. Chairman, I yield the balance of my time to the gentleman from Maine (Mr. BALDACC).

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Maine (Mr. BALDACC) is recognized for 4 minutes.

Mr. BALDACC. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. MINGE).

Mr. MINGE. Mr. Chairman, I would like to associate myself with the remarks of my colleagues from Oklahoma, from Maine, from New Hampshire and other Members that have spoken in support of this.

In Minnesota I know that we have had many seniors that have gone on bus trips and otherwise to Canada to purchase prescription drugs and often they come back with a feeling of intimidation. What we need to do is to assure them that if they are purchasing drugs that are safe, if they are purchasing drugs that are important for their health, that they are not subject to the harassment or the problems that they might face at the border when they come back.

Mr. BALDACC. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON).

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of this amendment, because the gentleman from Oklahoma raised the issue of collusion. We have held hearings with the advisory panels of the Food and Drug Administration and the CDC that makes recommendations on vaccines, and we have found through our committee investigations that many of the people who are on these advisory committees that are making the decisions on what kind of vaccines our children are getting are being paid by the pharmaceutical companies that own large amounts of stock in the pharmaceutical companies.

So I would just like to say that the collusion that the gentleman refers to is not limited to the price controls or price problems that he has been talking about here today. We believe that there are other problems that need to be addressed. So I think the gentleman is on the right track, and I support this amendment strongly.

Mr. BALDACCI. Mr. Chairman, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), if he would like to follow up and reinforce the safety and labeling issues that have been raised here.

Mr. COBURN. Mr. Chairman, I am happy to address those issues. Number one, we cannot manufacture a drug that comes into this country unless we are manufacturing it in an FDA-approved facility. That is number one. So safety is not a concern, and they can do whatever they want if it is not manufactured in an FDA-approved facility. Number two, it does not apply to a drug that is not approved in this country. So as far as the drugs that are approved in this country, those are the ones that are manufactured in an FDA-approved facility that will come in safe.

All we are saying is, since NAFTA is here, and I would have voted against had I been a Member of Congress at that time, but since it is here, let us use it. Let us get some benefit out of it besides stealing some of our jobs. So let us utilize NAFTA. This will not hamper the FDA.

Mr. BALDACCI. Mr. Chairman, in closing, I just want to first of all say that we are not under any illusions that all of a sudden one amendment is going to turn things around, but I believe that it is like many things, that it sends a message out, and from a million different amendments and messages and resolutions, at the end of the day, they have to receive the message and have got to be able to sit down and fashion a proposal that works universally across the board, accessible and affordable to all of our seniors, regardless of where they live and what their income is.

I think what we are seeing here today on the floor of the House and have seen throughout the country is a frustration with recognizing that something is up. People have figured out long before all of us that something is up and we need to address it. This is just one vehicle, one way to be able to do it. There are many others, and I support many of the different approaches, but at the end of the day, we have to make sure the seniors are taken care of.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Chairman, I reluctantly rise in opposition to the amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 10 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Chairman, I am concerned about this amendment and perhaps others that will be offered only from the sense of safety.

I rise in opposition, reluctantly, to enter into a colloquy with the gentleman who is offering the amendment here on our side. That is to ask, if a senior citizen, for example, goes on a bus trip from Maine or Ohio up to Canada or down to Mexico, when they go to a pharmaceutical operation and they go to buy a drug, let us say it is Claritin, how do they know that that is manufactured in any of the countries the gentleman is talking about with his amendment? Is it labeled? How do they know that it was manufactured in an FDA-approved facility?

The gentleman says in his amendment that these drugs were approved for use within the United States and manufactured in an FDA-approved facility. Does it say that on the box? Can the gentleman assure me, unlike the FDA commissioner who appeared before our committee and did not have the confidence that the gentleman has that seniors could be assured of equal content and equal inspection of these drugs? How can the gentleman be so certain that they are getting a product of equal import? If the gentleman could answer that question.

Mr. BALDACCI. Mr. Chairman, will the gentlewoman yield?

Ms. KAPTUR. I yield to the gentleman from Maine.

Mr. BALDACCI. Mr. Chairman, I certainly will yield, if I can, to the gentleman from Oklahoma who is a physician and practices.

But my experience, and from people that I have talked to that have gone across the border from Maine to Canada have purchased the same drug where it is made in the USA, and it does not say right on the label that it has been inspected by the FDA, but it was made in the USA, and that it is the same drug that they are purchasing.

Their experience is that they paid \$400 or \$500 for what would be \$1,000 in this country. It is no different than what has been happening in agriculture with the pesticides and other types of products that are manufactured in this country, are sold overseas, and trying to be able to reimport those because of a permit process, not because of safety, not because of any issue as it may pertain to the impacts of the health of the individual, but just because of those issues, our farmers have been disadvantaged, our seniors have been disadvantaged, and as the gentleman from Oklahoma has said, it seems that NAFTA is a one-way street. They build the wall, and nothing gets in, but everything tends to come out. The gentlewoman recognizes that in her fights that she has led in this Congress over the years with regard to those issues.

Mr. Chairman, the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) may like to respond on the safety issues.

Mr. COBURN. Mr. Chairman, will the gentlewoman yield?

Ms. KAPTUR. I yield to the gentleman from Oklahoma.

Mr. COBURN. Mr. Chairman, I think a couple of points are important. Num-

ber one is when we get a drug in this country, we do not know where it is made, because a large portion of our drugs in this country are made in Europe, made in South America, made in Puerto Rico, in FDA-approved facilities. They have to meet that standard. That is number one. Will there be an accident? Sure, there will be. I will not deny that there will be a mistake made in filling a prescription just like there is every day in this country as well.

However, I would challenge the ranking member on this committee, how many people are not getting the medicines they needed to because they cannot afford to get them, and if we allow competition to resume, which this is just one way of doing it, whom of them will markedly benefit their health, their quality of life? People's lives are being shortened today because of the abnormally high and ridiculously increased prices of many pharmaceuticals out there.

Can we assure 100 percent safety? No. The FDA cannot now. As a matter of fact, what they do is they look at drugs and say, are they safe enough? There is not any drug that is absolutely safe.

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Aspirin is not absolutely safe. But are we going to markedly increase the risk for Americans with this? Absolutely not. The FDA knows those facilities.

Will they have absolute assurance on a drug like Viagra, will somebody try to prostitute that drug and make a substitute? They are doing that now and they are bringing them in. It is not going to be a new problem for the FDA, and it is not going to be more of a problem.

What it is going to be is more access at better prices for our seniors and everybody else in this country for the pharmaceuticals, because the competitive model is not working in this industry today. This will be a shot that says that we need the competition to work. That is why we want to do this.

Ms. KAPTUR. Reclaiming my time, Mr. Chairman, perhaps the officials from the Food and Drug Administration are listening to this debate. If there is any doubt in their minds as to the net effect of this amendment as we move towards conference, we can tighten up the language to make sure that we do nothing to lessen the food, drug, and safety laws of the country, which are the strongest in the world, to protect the health of our people.

I know that neither gentlemen would want to undermine that. Obviously, they would want to improve it. Maybe there is some way that FDA could indicate on the boxes that it is from an FDA-approved facility. I think we want to give consumers ultimate confidence that the purchase they are making will not harm them.

Mr. COBURN. If the gentlewoman will continue to yield, the European Union today has just as strong rules as we do. They import drugs from all

over. In terms of quality, efficacy, and safety, their laws are almost exactly the same. They are coming from a range of 13 to 15 countries. If they can do it, certainly we can do it with our neighbors.

Ms. KAPTUR. I would just say to the gentleman, in the food area they obviously do not have the same standards. In the drug area, their system is quite different.

Mr. BALDACCI. Mr. Chairman, if the gentlewoman will yield further, I appreciate the gentlewoman's suggestion. I would encourage the FDA and others that have any issue here, that can be tightened up in conference. I think that is an excellent suggestion, and I would look forward to working with the gentlewoman to tighten that up if it needed to be.

Ms. KAPTUR. I thank the gentleman for that. I withdraw my reluctant opposition, and look forward to the conference on the amendment.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Chairman, I am astonished that we are again debating an amendment that would stifle biomedical research and impose political will on an agency whose work is based on the non-partisan rule of science. This is an invasion into the FDA's drug approval process—a place where Congress has no right to be. We are not scientists. We created the FDA and charged it with determining which drugs are safe and effective for use in this country. We were wise to do so—the FDA has a long history of protecting the public from drugs that are uncertain or unsafe.

This amendment would change all that. In an attempt to impose their beliefs on all of America, anti-choice proponents of this amendment would have you believe that it would apply to drugs solely for the purpose of the chemical induction of abortion. But, in fact, we know that it would reach far beyond that.

Often times drugs are approved for one purpose, and later are found safe and effective for treating an entirely different condition. For example, the drug Doxil was originally approved by the FDA as an AIDS treatment. But later, in June of 1999, the FDA approved the same drug for the treatment of ovarian cancer. Even mifepristone, the target of this amendment, currently shows promise for use in the treatment of breast cancer, benign brain tumors, ovarian cancer, and even prostate cancer.

Let's call this amendment for what it is—an attempt to score a political point on abortion. Unfortunately, the casualties in this political move are biomedical research, independent scientific evaluation of medicines, and patient access to reproductive health drugs.

What this amendment would in fact do is begin a path whereby Congress decides, based on political and ideological considerations, what drugs it thinks America should or should not have access to, and then blocks the FDA from taking action to approve drugs deemed inappropriate. Let me ask you, what would this lead to next? Which political issue would be the target of the next attempt to thwart research or invade the FDA's drug approval process? We must be mindful of the dangerous precedent this amendment would set.

Now is not the time to limit the FDA in their work to determine the safety and efficacy of

promising new drugs in America. This amendment would not only limit the FDA but it would have a chilling effect on biomedical research, particularly women's health research, which has been severely understudied for years. This amendment may be aimed at one issue, but it will have consequences for millions of Americans.

When we halt action on an entire category of drugs, we erase the possibility that those drugs could hold for treating other conditions. We stamp out the scientific pursuit of medicines that heal with one attempt to limit the safe practice of abortion—which I might remind my colleagues is still a legal right in this country.

This Congress has made biomedical research a priority. We have agreed that we have an obligation to fund the search for cures and better treatments for disease in this country. We have the unique opportunity as lawmakers to use public policy to actually improve people's health and improve their lives. But what this amendment would do is exactly the opposite—it would place political gain ahead of real progress. It would replace the gold standard of drug approval that this nation has come to trust with congressional restrictions based only on personal ideology—not sound science.

Speaking as both a legislator and a cancer survivor, I know the value of modern medicines. To be quite frank, I am offended by the idea that some lawmakers think they can dictate to the FDA what work they can do on proposals that could improve the lives of Americans.

I urge my colleagues—don't force your opinion regarding choice on the FDA and the people who rely on it for sound, scientific judgement. Allow the FDA to continue the important work it does in evaluating all potential pharmaceuticals. Do not subject the FDA scientists to the personal philosophies of some Members of this House. Preserve the promise of biomedical research and new drugs for all Americans. Defeat the Coburn Amendment.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to the amendment offered by Representative COBURN.

For the past three years, Congress has revisited Rep. COBURN's amendment to prohibit the FDA from testing, developing, and approving drugs that could cause the chemical induction of abortion. Like the so-called "partial birth abortion" ban, it has become a hallmark of the anti-choice agenda.

But this measure is not about abortion or even mifepristone. It is about Congress trying to dictate what the FDA is permitted to do and not to do. As a public health specialist by training, I am appalled that my colleagues would attempt to interfere with the FDA's ability to test, research, and approve any drug with political mandates.

Reproductive health drugs should be held to FDA's rigorous science-based requirements that any drug must meet before approval can be granted—just like any other drug. They should not be singled out simply because they deal with reproductive health.

In 1996, the Food and Drug Administration found mifepristone a safe and effective method for early medical abortion. This drug has been used successfully by more than 500,000 women around the world for over twenty years in countries like France, Sweden, and the United Kingdom, and was just recently made

available in Spain, the Netherlands, Australia, and Israel. Every country in Europe, and beyond, seems to recognize the benefits of making this drug available to women—except the United States.

This measure seeks not only to deny American women access to mifepristone, it also threatens the health of Americans in general. In addition to providing safe, medical abortions, there is evidence that mifepristone has great potential to treat serious medical conditions such as inoperable brain tumors, prostate cancer, and infertility—as well as female specific conditions like endometriosis, uterine fibroids, and breast cancer.

I ask my colleagues, how many other uses are there for a drug like Viagra? Yet, Viagra hit the market in record time. What kind of message does that send to the world? The consideration of this measure and the failure of the United States to make this drug available tells the world that the health of Americans is negotiable and subject to the will of anti-choice politicians.

If passed, this amendment would not only compromise the integrity of FDA's scientific process, it would open the door for further invasions on the drug approval process. More importantly, it would set a very dangerous and irrevocable precedent in the medical community.

Over the past three decades, the face of reproductive health care has drastically changed to serve the needs of American women. And for the first time in history, a reproductive health drug has the potential to benefit not only American women, but to provide more appropriate care to millions of Americans. Who are we, Members of Congress, to interfere in the face of such immense scientific progress?

Americans trust that drugs approved by the FDA are safe. Vote "no" on the Coburn amendment and let the FDA do its job.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Chairman, I rise to oppose the Coburn amendment to the Agriculture Appropriations bill. I strongly disagree with this amendment because it would block the Food and Drug Administration from testing, developing, or approving any drug that would induce abortion, including RU-486. The Coburn amendment would limit the development of the next generation of safer, more effective contraceptives and this is wrong.

Women in America have a right to choose. We must protect this right. The goal of this Congress should be to reduce the number of abortions, protect the right of women to choose, and to make necessary medical choices safe and legal. It is wrong for Congress to tell the FDA to approve a particular drug or to disapprove one. Instead, it is the FDA's mission to decide whether a drug is "safe and effective." The Coburn amendment would make this decision for the FDA and substitute Congress' judgement over the judgement of medical professionals.

We must remember that RU-486 is a product proven to be medically safe. After extensive French and United States clinical trials, the FDA has determined that it is safe and effective for an early medical abortion. For about 20 years RU-486 has been available to Europe's women. The effect of this amendment is to ban RU-486 which can be used for a nonsurgical abortion. For women for whom surgical abortion poses risks or is otherwise inappropriate, the Coburn amendment unconstitutionally restricts the right to choose. For

women living far from clinics, it precludes the possibility of receiving RU-486 in their physician's office, again burdening the right to choose. Women have the right to choose and I support the current FDA medical approval process.

We should not trample on the FDA's ability to test, research and approve drugs based on sound scientific evidence. We should also remember this amendment is not limited to just this one safe and effective drug. It is not simply about access to RU-486 alone. It would have a dangerous chilling effect on developing other drugs for various other medical purposes. Drugs used to treat other conditions including cancers and ulcers can induce abortion. This proposed ban could limit the FDA's capacity to consider approving these other therapies and could force researchers to reject promising treatment opportunities.

I stand with the American Medical Association; the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists; and the American Medical Women's Association to oppose this amendment.

I urge my colleagues to oppose the Coburn amendment and protect a woman's right to choose. Vote "no" on the Coburn amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN).

The question was taken; and the Chairman announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. COBURN. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote, and pending that, I make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to House Resolution 538, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. KAPTUR

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Ms. KAPTUR:

Page 96, after line 4, insert the following new section:

TITLE IX—ADDITIONAL GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. . Within available funds, the Secretary of Agriculture is urged to use ethanol, biodiesel, and other alternative fuels to the maximum extent practicable in meeting the fuel needs of the Department of Agriculture.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Chairman, I offer a sense of Congress resolution in the form of an amendment concerning ethanol and diesel fuels.

Mr. Chairman, we all have seen the price of fuel rise across the country, spike, and cause businesses and households a great deal of economic anxiety this summer. It was but yet another example of our overdependence on imported fuels to move this economy.

There is no one answer to that problem, but obviously we should all have a strong, very strong-willed position to move America toward any energy independence in our lifetime.

One of the most important departments to help us do that is the Department of Agriculture. In fact, the poten-

tial for the expanded use of ethanol and biodiesel and biofuels of all kinds using cellulose from our fields and forests is absolutely unlimited and it is renewable.

In addition to that, it is much less polluting. The State of Ohio, for example, I think leads the Nation in mixtures that involve ethanol. We have shown that research can be done in producing alternative fuels that benefit our environment, can actually help our engines burn more cleanly, and end our growing dependence.

Over 60 percent of the fuel used to power this economy comes from foreign sources. It is our major strategic vulnerability.

USDA has been helping in research, albeit slowly, over the years. We are making some progress. The intent of this resolution is to further encourage the Secretary of Agriculture to use ethanol, biodiesel, and other alternative fuels to the maximum extent practicable in all of USDA facilities across the country. There are hundreds.

One of the areas in which we are successfully working is in the district of the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) in Beltsville, Maryland, at the chief research station in this country to power many of the land vehicles, tractors, and cars, used in that major research station.

What we are asking USDA to do in this sense of Congress resolution is to exert the maximum effort possible and look at the other sites around the country, including cooperative efforts with our land grant universities, with other research sites across the country, with the headquarters facilities here in Washington, D.C., and really help lead America forward and develop the set of connections that can move product from the farm into industrial and agricultural use by the end user.

So it is very straightforward, and if we are to be serious about alternative fuels, we must use every arrow in our quiver. We are asking the USDA to put added muscle behind this in every single facility that it operates across the country.

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Chairman, will the gentlewoman yield?

Ms. KAPTUR. I yield to the gentleman from New Mexico.

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Chairman, I accept the gentlewoman's amendment, and recommend that the House do so, as well.

Ms. KAPTUR. I thank the gentleman. I just wish we could power some of those sheep with some ethanol, but we will probably figure out a way to do that in the future.

Mr. SKEEN. We keep them well inoculated, and they do not buy their pharmaceuticals from anyplace other than home.

Ms. KAPTUR. I thank the gentleman for his support.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 70 OFFERED BY MR. GILMAN

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 70 offered by Mr. GILMAN: Page 85, after line 15, insert the following new section:

SEC. . The Secretary of Agriculture shall use \$15,000,000 of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation to provide compensation to producers of onions whose farming operations are located in a county designated by the Secretary as a disaster area for drought in 1999 and who suffered quality losses to their 1999 onion production due to, or related to, drought. Payments shall be made on a per hundredweight basis on each qualifying producer's pre-1996 production of onions, based on the 5-year average market price for yellow onions.

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Chairman, I reserve a point of order on the amendment.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Chairman, my amendment would require the Secretary of Agriculture to use \$15 million of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation to provide compensation to producers of onions who were hard hit by drought in the 1999 growing season.

The reason for this amendment is quite obvious. Onion producers from my congressional district in Orange County, New York, have been devastated by either drought, wind, or rain 3 out of the past 4 years. Making matters worse, the USDA crop insurance program provided little or no assistance to these growers.

I had the opportunity to visit with our onion producers just this past week to learn of their outstanding plight. While it is imperative that these growers receive adequate assistance in order to survive, I will withdraw my amendment, since it is subject to a point of order in the House.

However, I would ask the distinguished chairman of our subcommittee, the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. SKEEN), if I could speak with him on this important matter.

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. GILMAN. I yield to the gentleman from New Mexico.

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Chairman, I understand the gentleman's concern, and we will continue to do our best as the bill proceeds to conference.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Chairman, I would tell the gentleman, onion growers in Orange County, New York in my congressional district have suffered devastating losses 3 out of the past 4 years, 1996, 1998, and 1999. They are in desperate need of meaningful assistance. The small sums which crop insurance paid to these farmers due to the 1996, 1998 and 1999 losses failed to provide anything close to minimal relief.

Accordingly, our farming families continue to lose their farms, individuals are uprooted, a traditional way of life is jeopardized, and a segment of our

national food supply has been further diminished. These are the very upheavals which crop insurance was designed initially to prevent.

The USDA has clearly demonstrated its inability to effectively deliver needed and equitable crop loss disaster assistance to Orange County onion farmers. Repeated and intense communications between the Department, my office, and onion producers over the last few years at all levels have failed to address any of our concerns.

USDA officials have stated that the Department does not have a clear direction from the Congress on how to proceed with the complicated and untraditional issues surrounding the unique situation facing these onion growers, including, one, how to compensate for crop quality losses; two, reliance on a crop insurance model that cannot adequately account for multiyear losses, let alone 3 out of the 4 years; and third, how to calculate payment for high-value family farm specialty crop businesses.

Accordingly, I would ask for the chairman's commitment to work with me to provide assistance to our onion growers in Orange County, New York, who have incurred devastating crop losses due to damaging weather-related conditions 3 out of the last 4 years.

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Chairman, if the gentleman will continue to yield, again, I understand the gentleman's concern. We will continue to do our best as the bill proceeds to conference.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Chairman, while I am sure it will come as no surprise, our onion growers in Orange County are proud to receive few government subsidies. However, the current plight of these hard-working producers threatens the overall fate of our Hudson Valley, our State, and Nation's agricultural industry.

As their representative, I can no longer allow that unique and devastating situation to go unnoticed and unassisted, and thus I greatly appreciate the gentleman's willingness to work with us on this important matter. I thank the chairman.

Mr. SKEEN. I would tell the gentleman, we will do the very best we can on that matter.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent to withdraw the amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. RANGEL

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. RANGEL:

At the end of the bill, insert after the last section, preceding the short title (page 96, after line 4), the following new title:

TITLE IX—ADDITIONAL GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 901. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used—

(1) to implement section 620(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2370(a));

(2) to exercise the authorities conferred upon the President by section 5(b) of the Trading With the Enemy Act, which were being exercised with respect to Cuba on July 1, 1977, as a result of a national emergency declared by the President before that date, and are being exercised on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act, and any regulations in effect on the day before such date of enactment pursuant to the exercise of such authorities;

(3) to implement any prohibition on exports to Cuba that is in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act under the Export Administration Act of 1979;

(4) to implement the Cuban Democracy Act of 1992, other than section 1705(f) of that Act (relating to direct mail service to Cuba);

(5) to implement the Cuban Liberty and Democratic Solidarity (LIBERTAD) Act of 1996, or the amendments made by that Act;

(6) to implement subparagraph (A) of section 901(j)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to denial of foreign tax credit, etc., with respect to certain foreign countries) with respect to Cuba;

(7) to implement section 902(c) of the Food Security Act of 1985;

(8) to implement General Note 3(b) of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States with respect to Cuba; or

(9) to regulate or prohibit travel to and from Cuba by individuals who are citizens or residents of the United States, or any transactions ordinarily incident to such travel, if such travel would be lawful in the United States.

Mr. MENENDEZ (during the reading). Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent that the amendment be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Chairman, I make a point of order against the amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Florida is recognized on his point of order.

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Chairman, I rise to make a point of order against this amendment on the ground that it violates clause 7 of rule XVI on the issue of germaneness.

Mr. Chairman, the amendment references a number 9, as a matter of fact, programs and/or laws. All of the programs, certainly not even the overwhelming majority of them that are referenced, are either administered or enforced or regulated or in any way funded by this bill that we are considering this evening.

There is clearly an issue of germaneness, so under clause 7 of rule XVI, I raise the point of order.

The CHAIRMAN. Does the gentleman from New York (Mr. RANGEL) wish to be heard on the point of order?

Mr. RANGEL. Yes, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from New York is recognized.

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Chairman, it was my understanding that the gentleman from Florida was part of an agreement that would allow our farmers to export their products to Cuba.

Mr. Chairman, while it is true that the agreement was supposed to be done

in conference and not on the floor, I thought I could facilitate what he was a party to by merely removing any restrictions that our farmers would have to allow them to sell their products. Knowing his disdain for communism and his support, I assume, to try to eliminate this form of lack of democracy in Cuba, it was the feeling of the House that we could attempt to derail the communism that existed in China, North Korea, in North Vietnam.

I just felt that if we have such compassion about trying to instill democracy all across Asia, we should have just as much concern about the nearness and proximity to my friend's home State, Florida.

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I thought that since the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DIAZ-BALART) was party to the agreement that this would allow us at least to do publicly on the House floor what so many said was going to be done privately in conference.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there another Member that wishes to be heard on this point of order?

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Chairman, I wish to be recognized on this point of order.

The CHAIRMAN. The Chair would remind Members that they should direct their comments to the Chair regarding whether or not the point of order should or should not be sustained.

The gentleman from Florida may continue.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the Rangel amendment, but I support my dear colleague, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DIAZ-BALART) on the various points about why this part of the bill should be stricken, why this amendment should be stricken.

What this amendment is asking our U.S. agencies to do is to look the other way when U.S. laws governing trade with the oppressive Castro regime are being violated. It does so by prohibiting funds in the act from being used for the implementation of various foreign policy and national security restrictions.

This amendment extends far beyond the jurisdiction of the appropriations bill by referring to authorities, export controls and sanctions imposed under the Foreign Assistance Act, The Trading With the Enemy Act, the Export Administration Act, the Cuban Democracy Act, and other existing laws whose enforcements are administered by the Department of Commerce, the State Department, the Treasury Department and sometimes in consultation with the Department of Defense.

Mr. Chairman, it is ironic that the gentleman from New York (Mr. RANGEL), my good friend, the sponsor of this amendment, who repeatedly comes to the floor advocating for greater presidential authority over foreign policy and trade matters and seeks a minimal congressional involvement in

any of these issues would offer an amendment which actually restricts the President and issues a congressional mandate dictating what the pertinent agencies can and cannot do. So I believe that this amendment, which really seeks to change U.S. policy toward the brutal Castro dictatorship which rules Cuba with an iron grip by circumventing and ignoring the committees of jurisdiction, who have the expertise in these issues; without affording those committees an opportunity to debate, discuss and offer recommendations.

Further, Mr. Chairman, the Rangel amendment is in direct conflict with the agreement that we had reached a few weeks ago on the sanctions issue, an agreement which I believe has received broad range of support, and this agreement not only maintains a strong stance against Cuba's totalitarian regime, but it also protects American taxpayers from bearing the burden of failed loans and poor investments with Castro.

I would hope that the chairman would rule that this is not germane to the bill in question.

The CHAIRMAN. The Chair is prepared to rule, but would inquire, are there other Members who wish to be heard specifically on the point of order?

The Chair has been lenient allowing a certain amount of substantive debate to creep into this and would be prepared to rule, unless there are other Members who wish to be heard on the point of order.

For what purpose does the gentleman from Minnesota rise?

Mr. MINGE. Mr. Chairman, I would like to address the point of order.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Minnesota is recognized for that purpose.

Mr. MINGE. Mr. Chairman, I would like to thank my colleague from New York (Mr. RANGEL) for bringing up this issue. We have all read of numerous hours of negotiations that have been spent on Cuba trade and agricultural products. We know that the agricultural appropriations bill has been held up for probably a month as a result of negotiations behind the scenes. This amendment is an opportunity for us to consider on the floor of the House of Representatives this very important issue, otherwise, this point of order seeks to force deliberation on this amendment into the closed confines of conference committee.

I urge that the Chairman rule against the point of order so that we have openness with respect to the legislative process and so that we have an opportunity to consider an amendment that provides a realistic opportunity for trade with Cuba rather than a hollow provision which will allow for very limited trade with Cuba.

Mr. Chairman, I really feel that this particular amendment is the only opportunity that this body will have to debate and deliberate on the trade with

Cuba issue which otherwise is going to be foreclosed to this body, we will see something come back from conference committee, there will be a rule, which will waive all points of order, and this particular debate will be precluded.

The CHAIRMAN. The Chair is prepared to rule on the point of order.

The gentleman from New York (Mr. RANGEL) has the burden of proving that the amendment is germane.

Does the gentleman have additional arguments he would like to make in that regard?

Mr. RANGEL. The gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) has been working on some points that deal with this point of order, and I would like to hear from her, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. The Chair has been quite lenient but asks Members to speak to the point of order.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Chairman, I rise to support my colleague from New York (Mr. RANGEL) on this amendment and certainly believe it to be germane. I think it has been correctly stated that there has been a lot of backroom dealing going on on this issue. Day in and day out, we have heard about all of the antics, all of the various manipulations and maneuvering that has gone on only to have surfaced some very, very limited trade. One way that would perhaps allow our farmers to sell to Cuba, but would, on the other hand, do a lot of damage to the work that this President has been doing to help open up discussion and debate and to export democracy to Cuba.

It seems to me that this amendment would take care of some of the problems that have been created by my colleagues from the other side of the aisle, and I would simply ask that the Chair would recognize that and rule in favor of my colleague and the work that he is attempting to do.

The CHAIRMAN. The Chair is prepared to rule.

For what purpose does the gentleman from New Jersey rise?

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Chairman, on the point of order if I may.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from New Jersey is recognized.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Chairman, I have a great deal of respect for the gentleman from New York (Mr. RANGEL). I believe his venue here is inappropriate.

For those of us who are not privileged to sit on the Committee on Appropriations but who have ranking positions, as I do, on the Committee on International Economic Policy and Trade for which sanctions issue fall within the jurisdiction of our committee.

We do not believe that the appropriations bill is the appropriate venue for the pursuit. I did not believe that the amendment of the gentleman from Washington (Mr. NETHERCUTT) in the committee, which was legislating an appropriations bill, was appropriate.

It deprives those of us who have jurisdiction over certain items, if that is allowed to move forward, to, therefore,

nullify the value of our positions; therefore, I think that the amendment is not germane.

I further think it is an attempt to legislate in an appropriations bill, because it talks about travel as well which has nothing to do within the appropriations part of this agriculture bill. On the merits, of course, I have a strong disagreement with the gentleman, but I believe his venue is wrong and I would urge that the Chair rule the amendment out of order.

The CHAIRMAN. The Chair is prepared to rule on the amendment.

The gentleman from New York (Mr. RANGEL) has the burden of proving that the amendment is germane. The preface in the amendment that it is confined to funds in the bill is helpful in determining germaneness, so long as the listed funding to be prohibited bears some relationship to the functions of departments and agencies covered by the bill.

The Chair is unable to determine any role the covered agencies have in carrying out several of the laws mentioned in the amendment. Title VIII of the reported bill has been stricken on a point of order and the list of sanctions relating to Cuba is no longer in the bill. For this reason, the amendment, although in the form of a limitation, does not relate in all respects to programs covered by the bill and is not germane. The point of order is sustained.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

Mr. Chairman, I rise to simply speak on behalf of the amendment that was already adopted, which I strongly support, and I want to thank the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) for supporting. I also want to thank my good friend, the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. SKEEN) for supporting this as well.

This dealt with the alternative fuels amendment that was already adopted, and the reason I wanted to rise in support of it is because for the last 11 months the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, which is located in my district and so strongly supported by the committee, has been conducting a pilot project using biodiesel. Biodiesel, or any of the other alternative fuels, makes sense for two reasons, Mr. Chairman. First, because biodiesel is derived vegetable or soybean oil it opens another potential market for our Nation's farmers. Secondly, biodiesel is good for the environment. It is a renewable resource that burns much cleaner than conventional diesel.

At BARC, they use 80 percent diesel and 20 percent soybean oil mix. Their test results found that using biodiesel reduces carbon dioxide emissions 16 percent. Now that may have already been mentioned, but it bears repeating. Particulate matter, which is a major component of smog, is reduced by 22 percent and sulfur emissions are reduced by 20 percent.

Mr. Chairman, to date the 143 vehicles in their fleet have used over 60,000

gallons of biodiesel in their trucks, tractors and buses. They have found that maintenance costs are the same as using conventional diesel fuel.

In fact, the mechanics at BARC's motor pool actually prefer using biodiesel. Not only does it increase lubrication throughout the engine but unlike regular diesel, it does not emit fumes that cause eye irritations, a fact that those of us who have been behind buses from time to time will think is a pretty good idea.

I was going to urge my colleagues to adopt this amendment, but I want to commend my colleagues for already having done that, but I am pleased that I had the opportunity to rise. I congratulate the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) for this initiative.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. HOYER. I yield to the gentlewoman from Ohio.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Chairman, I wanted to thank the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) for being such a strong supporter of alternative fuels and, obviously, with the gentleman's support, the Beltsville Research Station, the premiere agricultural research station in the country, is leading the rest of the Nation in this important arena.

Mr. Chairman, I want to thank the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) for his own leadership as a member of the Committee on Appropriations in assuring that Beltsville understands the seriousness of this Congress in trying to move additional alternative fuels on-line for the sake, not just of the Beltsville station, but for the sake of the Nation. I want to thank the gentleman for taking the time today to place in the RECORD the actual research, the demonstration and the results of what has actually been accomplished at Beltsville.

Without question, the gentleman is placing a foundation there that can be built upon and transferred to other USDA sites, as well as the cooperative agreements that USDA can reach with all of our land grant universities across the country.

I just want to thank the gentleman for helping to spur these efforts forward and for helping Beltsville lead the rest of the Nation as it should.

Mr. HOYER. Reclaiming my time, Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentlewoman for her comments and thank her for her leadership. Again, I thank the chairman of the committee, the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. SKEEN), my friend, for his leadership as well.

AMENDMENT NO. 33 OFFERED BY MR. SANFORD

Mr. SANFORD. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 33 offered by Mr. SANFORD:
Insert before the short title the following:

TITLE IX—ADDITIONAL GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 901. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act to the Department of Agriculture may be used to carry out a pilot program under the child nutrition programs to study the effects of providing free breakfasts to students without regard to family income.

Mr. SANFORD. Mr. Chairman, this amendment simply gets at funding for the school breakfast pilot program. Mr. Chairman, this program was a 3-year authorization which basically chose six school districts from around the country to begin a pilot program looking at the link between eating breakfast and performance in school. Last year, \$7 million went toward that cause, another \$6 million is in this bill. This amendment goes after \$6 million that is currently in the bill.

I would simply say that common sense would dictate, not another \$6 million, that there is directly a link between having breakfast and performance for a young person at school.

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It does not take \$13 million to tell us that young folks will do better in school after breakfast than without breakfast.

So I do not think this amendment is at all about the merits of the pilot program itself. Rather, I think that what this is about is do we want this pilot program to, since we know that is directly a link between one's performance and having breakfast, do we want to grow this into school breakfast for everybody around the country? For me, the answer would be no. Because if one actually looks at the numbers, it would cost a full \$750 million a year to provide free breakfast for every school and every child in school districts across the country. To me, that says there is no free breakfast, there is no free lunch. \$750 million is a lot of money.

Now, the reason I think it is worth looking at is that, if one is poor, one is going to get a free breakfast at school. Since 1975, the result of basically action taken here in this Congress, poor folks have been able to get a free breakfast. In fact, I have a chart here that shows participation rates around the country. In South Carolina, 98.9 percent of school districts offer breakfast. In West Virginia, it is 98.7. In Idaho, it is 97.8. In Texas, it is 96.8. In Delaware, it is 96.6.

I could read the other numbers for each of the other States in the Union; but the point is that, in the whole, we are looking at very high participation rates for breakfast.

The point is do we want to have another Federal mandate that says one is going to have school breakfast, and again I would say no. The reason I say no is that I think we have to take aim at helping folks. I think that those in need absolutely should be given a free breakfast. But if one is a lawyer, does one need to have a free breakfast for one's children? If one is a doctor, does one's children need to get a free break-

fast? If one is a high-tech zillionaire from Silicon Valley, does one's children need to get a free breakfast?

In fact, if I look at the number of school districts across this country, 20 percent of the families who send their kids to public schools make in excess of \$75,000. Five percent make over \$132,000. Do we want people from Georgetown County, where per capita income is basically a little less than \$20,000 a year in South Carolina, subsidizing people who make over \$132,000 in the purchase of their child's breakfast? I would have to say no.

I as well would just make a point that the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Chairman GOODLING), the chairman of the Committee on Education and the Workforce, in the debate that occurred at the committee level on this came out on the side of we do not need a universal free breakfast program.

Finally, I want to say that I think that this is the most basic of all parental responsibilities. The idea that before one sends one's kid off to school that one help them with breakfast, especially if one is financially able to do so. This is a place wherein family traditions can be passed along, family history can be passed along, have you done your homework can be passed along. A lot of other normal family questions can occur at the breakfast table. So handing this off to school districts to me would be a mistake on that basis as well.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

Mr. Chairman, I rise in absolute opposition to the Sanford amendment, which would prohibit the Department of Agriculture from completing the School Breakfast Demonstration pilot project.

The School Breakfast Demonstration program is a scientific study to measure the effect of providing breakfast at school free of charge to all children, regardless of income, on a broad range of student outcomes, including grades, attendance, tardiness, and also behavior and concentration.

Mr. Chairman, yes, we should be providing breakfast for all of our children at their homes in the morning. But we are sure that parents in this busy world we are living in are commuting long hours, they are working long hours, and they leave the house before their children have had breakfast. Every child needs to go to school ready to learn on a full stomach.

The Meals for Achievement Act that I authored has already received half of its needed funding. The first \$7 million was appropriated last year. The program is already under way. After a nationwide competition, six school districts have been chosen to participate.

As we debate, these school districts across the country representing a wide variety of schools, school districts, and students are already setting up their programs. Why would we today take that funding away from them?

Mr. Chairman, as a Nation, we are searching for answers to the many

challenges our schools and our children face. Numerous studies, including one by Harvard University and Massachusetts General Hospital, show that children who eat breakfast improve both their grades and their behavior in school. But I can assure my colleagues, if I came to this floor and said to them that it is absolute that children who eat breakfast do better in school, one would say to me prove it.

I want a scientific study, and I want that study to be a government, a Federal Government-paid and -monitored study. That is why we need to do this pilot program.

But because children need to have breakfast is one of the reasons why many school districts and some in my district provide breakfast at school to all of their students on the mornings before standardized testing.

In today's world, if a child is lucky enough to have two parents living at home, chances are that both parents are working and commuting long hours. More and more parents are out the door on the road early in the morning with no time to sit down to breakfast. That does not mean they cannot afford breakfast. It means these children do not eat breakfast because there is nobody there to insist that they do.

The breakfast program is voluntary. Nobody has to go to school and eat breakfast. It will be available for all children no matter when and if they want to eat breakfast.

Whether we like it or not, many children do not eat; and they do arrive at school hungry. And when they are hungry, they are not ready to learn.

So unless we want to pass a law requiring every family to ensure their kids eat breakfast before school, and then hire a bunch of breakfast police to enforce our law, we need to understand the benefits of a universal school breakfast program.

That is why we must allow the Department of Agriculture to use the funds included in this bill to complete the School Breakfast Demonstration program. Along with most educators and scientists, I believe that previous experience and studies will hold true and that the School Breakfast Demonstration program will prove once again that school breakfast is not a welfare program, it is an education program that will benefit all students.

Just as we do not charge the wealthy students for their books and their computers because they can afford it, we must not charge students for breakfast. Because like a book or a computer, breakfast is a learning tool, a tool that must be made available to all.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the requisite number of words.

Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to this amendment. I want to commend the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) for her great leadership on assuring that every child in this country obtains proper nutrition. Obvi-

ously, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) represents a different area of the country than I might coming from northwest Ohio or the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. SANFORD), the author of the amendment.

However, I can tell my colleagues, even in my own district, some of the most instructive people one can speak with are the food service workers in our schools. It is very shocking to go into some of the schools and to talk to these food service workers who tell us about a young child that comes in on a Monday morning who has not eaten all weekend and who asks permission to eat two school breakfasts because he or she has not had a decent meal all weekend. It is sad to think that that can happen in America; but in fact, it is happening every day. I am sure in some communities it is happening more than in other places.

I think as we use the school breakfast program to try to make sure that every child in these early years receives proper nutrition, and maybe that is a mothering role and so maybe the women of America feel more strongly about it, I think it is important to recognize that we need to understand how to make these programs work better to make sure that we are providing proper nutrition, to really understand which children may not be getting proper nutrition and what we can do about it.

Hopefully, every child would get the food they need at home; but we know that that just is not the case in today's world with people working two and three shifts, different jobs, split shifts, all the rest. Sometimes just finding family time for dinner is difficult in today's world. That is not the world I grew up in, but it is the world that so many families deal with today.

The money that we initially provided for this study totaled \$7 million; and, in fact, the study is under way. The remaining \$6 million that the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) and others have supported is coming from transferring monies out of the WIC program, the Women, Infants and Children's feeding program that are carrying over balances that are not needed because we are being successful with enrollment in that program, taking great care to be sure that sufficient dollars do remain in the WIC program.

Nothing is more important than a good meal with proper nutrition for the learning ability of children. When they do not eat enough and they do not eat properly, they get tired. Their brains do not grow fast enough. Their early years are absolutely critical in producing a child that can fully function in this society.

So I would urge defeat of the amendment of the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. SANFORD) and again compliment the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) for her outstanding leadership and her great heart on making sure that every child in

America grows to their full potential, beginning with good nutrition.

Mr. CLAYTON. Mr. Chairman, hunger is an issue many in America would prefer to ignore.

This amendment is about hunger.

This amendment is about making sure all of our children have a hearty meal and a healthy start as they begin the school day.

There is evidence of hunger in 3.6 percent of all households in America.

Close to four million children are hungry.

Fourteen million children—twenty percent of the population of children—live in food insecure homes.

In food insecure homes, meals are skipped, or the size of meals is reduced.

More than ten percent of all households in America are food insecure.

Because there is such hunger and food insecurity, there is also infant mortality, growth stunting, iron deficiency, anemia, poor learning, and increased chances for disease.

Because there is such hunger and food insecurity, the poor are more likely to remain poor, the hungry are more likely to remain hungry.

It seems strange that we must fight for food for those who can not fight for themselves.

It really is time to stop picking on the poor.

Less than 3 percent of the budget goes to feed the hungry.

It is for those reasons we must soundly and solidly reject this ill-advised amendment.

Currently, Mr. Chairman, the Agriculture appropriations bill includes \$6 million to complete the School Breakfast Program Demonstration program.

Last year, \$7 million was appropriated for the project, and school districts have been chosen to participate.

It is imprudent, unwise and injudicious to discontinue this study at this time.

This project will give us the information we need to determine if providing breakfast at school for all children is a sound investment for federal dollars.

The link between eating breakfast and improved learning and behavior is already well established.

Students who eat breakfast do better on tests.

Students who eat breakfast make better grades.

Breakfast is a learning tool, just like books and computers.

We cannot prepare our children for the future if we insist upon policies that relegate them to the past.

And, we cannot protect and preserve our communities, if we do not adequately provide the most basic commodity for living—something to eat.

Nutrition programs are essential to the well-being of millions of our children.

These are citizens who often cannot provide for themselves and need help for existence.

They do not ask much.

Just a little help to sustain them through the day.

Just a little help to keep them alert in class and productive in their lives.

Food for all, especially our children, is worth fighting for.

Reject this Sanford amendment.

It is not worthy of our support.

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the amendment offered by Congressman SANFORD to H.R. 4461, the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug

Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for 2001. This amendment would prohibit the use of funds to complete a pilot project under which all children will receive free school breakfasts, regardless of income.

I am a long-time proponent of child nutrition programs, but I also believe we must focus funding on those children in greatest need to services.

The universal breakfast pilot project is based on the premise that children who do not eat at school don't eat breakfast and that more children would eat breakfast at school if all children could eat for free.

Mr. Chairman, any school that wants to participate in the school breakfast program with federal reimbursements can do so, and all children are eligible for participation. However, in contrast to a universal breakfast program, only low-income children are eligible for free meals.

The school breakfast program has grown tremendously over the past years. In 1980, approximately 33,000 schools served breakfast. In 1990, approximately 43,000 schools participated. This year, approximately 74,000 schools did. The number of children participating in breakfast programs has increased as well. During the past 10 years the number of children receiving school breakfasts rose 88 percent, climbing from 4 million to 7.5 million.

Over 85 percent of low-income children enrolled in elementary school attend a school offering the breakfast program. This is an important fact because there are more breakfast programs in elementary than secondary schools. As a result, the opportunity to participate in a breakfast program is available to the majority of low-income children in elementary schools.

Mr. Chairman, I doubt there is any member in this body who would disagree with the fact that breakfast is an important meal for children. It helps provide them the energy they need to perform well in school. We do not need to prove this through a demonstration program.

What is under debate is who is responsible for feeding our nation's children. While I believe it is important that all children have an opportunity to participate in a school breakfast program, I also think the primary responsibility for feeding children lies with their parents.

Any proposal to make school breakfast free to children at all income levels in all schools would primarily subsidize middle and upper income children who do not need a free breakfast.

One reason children do not participate in the breakfast program to the extent they participate in the lunch program is that many children eat breakfast at home with their families. This is not usually an option for lunch. Why would we want to encourage children to eat at school when they can spend valuable time with their parents?

If the argument in support of a universal breakfast program is that it will reduce the number of children who are missing breakfast, large research evaluations funded by the USDA in the early 1990s do not support that contention. Studies show that 94 percent of children in kindergarten through third grade already eat breakfast and that the presence of school breakfast does not increase this number.

I have opposed the funding of this pilot project from the beginning and continue to op-

pose it. It is not needed. We have a school breakfast program that is available to the majority of low-income children. Other children can participate if they want to do so.

At every opportunity, we should encourage children and parents to share meals together.

Mr. Chairman, I want to particularly thank Mr. SANFORD for the forethought and commitment to have us stop moving forward on an effort that is unnecessary and I think unwise. All a universal breakfast program does is increase the federal budget and reduce quality time between parents and children. I encourage my colleagues to support the Sanford amendment. We do not need this pilot project.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. SANFORD).

The question was taken; and the Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. SANFORD. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote, and pending that, I make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to House Resolution 538, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. SANFORD) will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

AMENDMENT NO. 26 OFFERED BY MR. DEFAZIO

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 26 offered by Mr. DEFAZIO: Insert at the end of the bill (before the short title) the following:

TITLE IX—ADDITIONAL GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 901. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, not more than \$28,684,000 of the funds made available in this Act may be used for Wildlife Services Program operations under the heading "ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE", and none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act for Wildlife Services Program operations to carry out the first section of the Act of March 2, 1931 (7 U.S.C. 426), may be used to conduct campaigns for the destruction of wild predatory mammals for the purpose of protecting livestock.

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Chairman, I reserve a point of order.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. SKEEN) reserves a point of order.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Chairman, may I ask, does the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. SKEEN) intend to pursue his point of order, because in the interest of time, if he does, I will offer a different amendment.

Mr. SKEEN. Yes, I do, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent to withdraw amendment No. 26.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the amendment is withdrawn.

There was no objection.

AMENDMENT NO. 39 OFFERED BY MR. DEFAZIO

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 39 offered by Mr. DEFAZIO: Insert before the short title the following:

TITLE IX—ADDITIONAL GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 901. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, not more than \$28,684,000 of the funds made available in this Act may be used for Wildlife Services Program operations under the heading "ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE", and none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act for Wildlife Services Program operations to carry out the first section of the Act of March 2, 1931 (7 U.S.C. 426), may be used to conduct campaigns for the destruction of wild animals for the purpose of protecting stock.

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent that all debate on this amendment and all amendments thereto close in 30 minutes evenly divided between the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) and myself.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Mexico?

There was no objection.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) and the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. SKEEN) each will control 15 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO).

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself 3 minutes.

Mr. Chairman, we have debated this amendment before. Actually, this amendment passed the House this fiscal year 1999 but was narrowly defeated on a reconsideration vote after powerful special interests weighed in with howls of protest, false sense, and red herrings.

Well, first, let us dispense with the false arguments that we will hear tonight from the gentleman from Texas and others. This is not about public health and safety. Children in school yards will be safe whether or not this amendment passes. It does not go to the issue of wildlife that presents a public health and safety issue. It is not about dusky geese. It is not about brown tree snakes in Hawaii. It is not about airplanes falling from the sky after bird strikes.

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None of those activities of the Animal Damage Control agency, now called Wildlife Services, would be affected by this amendment. It is not about tuberculosis and deer in the Midwest. We will hear all those things. It is not about that.

It is about one thing and one thing only. One specific program that is reserved for private ranching interests in the western United States. A program of subsidies to those ranchers. A program that is not available to any other member of the public who has a particular problem with wildlife on their property. It is only available to the ranchers.

It is an ineffective, indiscriminate program shooting, trapping, poisoning wildlife that has been promoted by ADC, which now calls themselves Wildlife Services. And this is, again, unlike their indiscriminate ineffective program, a very specific target, eliminate the \$7 million a year subsidy. That would reduce the bill to the funding recommended by the President, which would fully meet all of the obligations to protect public health and safety and other duties of that agency except for the subsidized program which goes on to private ranch lands, benefits Sam Donaldson and others.

They have spent millions of dollars on this program, and there are more coyotes today than there were when the program began. They do not understand coyote biology. When they kill the alpha male and female, they end up with more coyotes spread over a wider range, which is exactly what has happened. They have managed to kill people's pets. They have managed to kill, unfortunately, human beings from plane crashes with the aerial gunning program.

Nothing in this amendment would prevent those same ranchers, who are subsidized by Federal taxpayers, from hiring someone or doing it themselves by any legal means to protect their livestock. They can do it themselves. Nothing in this amendment would prevent that. But it would say that they no longer will have the luxury of calling for a Federal employee to come upon their land to take care of their private wildlife problems. It will be up to them to pay for it themselves, to hire someone to do it for them.

That is the gist of this amendment. It is an amendment of great merit. It has passed the House before, and I recommend Members support it.

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to make two points in regard to the amendment. First, the reason the committee has recommended funding Wildlife Services above the administration's level is because of requests from Members of this body. In fact, if we had the budget to accommodate all requests, the number would be much higher.

I would also point out that the committee recommendation also includes \$1 million for aviation safety that was requested by the USDA officials after the budget submission. Sadly, Mr. Chairman, again this year APHIS suffered a plane crash that killed two people working for Wildlife Services. The USDA is in the second year of upgrading its aviation safety program and this budget is where that money comes from.

My second point, Mr. Chairman, is the issue of fairness. Livestock producers benefit from the APHIS program, and so do many other sectors. What is the point in singling out one group? Why not take away the funds used to protect fish farms or oilseed producers from migratory birds? Why

not make the States and the cattle industry assume the full cost of the brucellosis program? Why not make the State of Hawaii and its tourism industry assume the full cost of protection from the brown tree snake? Let the States assume the full cost of rabies eradication and let the airlines and local airports assume the full cost of protection from bird strikes.

What I am saying to the vast majority of Members of this body whose districts benefit from Wildlife Services programs is that it is unfair to single out or attempt to single out one sector of one industry when so many others benefit.

In closing, I strongly recommend a "no" vote on this amendment. It will not achieve its purported purposes. It will endanger the health and welfare of people and animals alike. It is opposed by the States the sponsors represent. Contrary to recent assertions, it will have far-reaching and negative effects upon the Wildlife Services authority.

The sponsor should play it straight up and offer an amendment to do away with all lethal predator control. But they know it would never pass the House, so they attack one part of American agriculture that they have no use for. Oppose this amendment and let us get back to the real business of the House.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New Hampshire (Mr. BASS).

Mr. BASS. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman from Oregon for yielding me this time, and I rise in strong support of the pending amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to make five points. Number one, the wildlife methods of predator control are ineffective and wasteful. From 1983 to 1993, the amount of money that has been spent on this program has gone up by 71 percent, kills have gone up by 30 percent, and there is no significant reduction in the predator population.

Number two. Taxpayers should not be responsible for subsidizing predator control. As my friend from Oregon said when he spoke, not one word in this amendment would in any way impact a rancher's ability to shoot or control livestock on his or her property. All it says is that the taxpayers of this country are not going to subsidize gunning of predators on these ranches out in the West.

Thirdly, the Wildlife Services methods for predator control are inhumane. All we have to do is see footage of films of these helicopters and aircraft speeding low across the range with people with guns shooting indiscriminately from one end to the other. It is inhumane and it is dangerous.

My colleagues will hear and see the same posters that we have seen for years now, getting a little bit dog-eared, of the wolf chasing the little white sheep. They are gruesome pictures. What they do not show are the

seven humans who have been killed in aviation accidents associated with gunning these animals down. These individuals ride in these helicopters and aircraft with their rifles shooting from the aircraft, which by the way, is a violation of FAA regulations.

I guess the fourth point is that alternative methods of predator control do exist. They do exist. We do not have to support a program where we take taxpayers' funds and use them to kill animals in a program that has never really worked, and all it really constitutes in the end is a subsidy to large western ranchers.

I urge support of the pending amendment.

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BONILLA).

Mr. BONILLA. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time, and I rise in strong opposition to the DeFazio amendment.

This is amazing, this debate, and what kind of rhetoric is being tossed around this Chamber. The Wildlife Services program is violating Federal law in the air? FAA regulations? Give us a break.

These accusations that the program is inhumane. The accusations that it is not focused and that innocent wildlife are somehow caught in the cross-fire. The accusation that because there are more coyotes today, and there are, that it is a direct result of this program?

Those who are going to stand up and propose this amendment ought to at least stick to the facts. I have a fact here and a photo to prove how if we do not participate in this program, this inhumane activity will occur. These are several sheep in Oregon that were destroyed earlier on in a brutal way, as my colleagues can see from the photo, by wild coyotes who were roaming this area. This is the kind of inhumaneness that we are trying to stop. It is not only inhumane, it is of great cost to producers and farmers and ranchers around the country.

All of those who are standing up with this false rhetoric right now should perhaps consider, as they look at this photograph, about rewriting the nursery rhyme "Mary Had a Little Lamb" and we failed to protect it. That is what should rest on the consciences of those who would eliminate this very important program that promotes humaneness, is cost effective, and very important to farmers and ranchers around this country.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER).

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the gentleman's courtesy in yielding me this time, and I of course am horrified by the picture of the slaughtered sheep that was shown here.

But let us talk for a moment about why this is offered. And I would suggest to my colleague from Texas that it is not superheated rhetoric. I would

have invited him to go to Clackamas County, just outside of Portland, in my district, for a tragic incident a few months ago where the Wildlife Services agent placed a cluster of canisters of sodium cyanide on the land of a tree farmer. These so-called M-44 devices, once triggered, explode and release sodium cyanide gas several feet in the air. If sodium cyanide makes contact with the mucus membrane of an animal, touching the mouths, eyes, or nose, the animal will suffer a miserable death.

On a tree farm in Estacada, a family pet, a German Shepherd named Buddy, made the fatal mistake of stumbling across an M-44 loaded with sodium cyanide. I will not show my colleagues the picture of Buddy, his face dried with blood and foam caked on his face. But what if that canister had been dealt with by a child instead of a German Shepherd?

Currently, in my State, citizens have gathered 103,976 signatures to place on a Statewide ballot a measure to restrict the use of inhumane traps and poison. They do not want the USDA personnel setting out land mines on their private or public lands. These traps set by the Wildlife Services are just as dangerous as the poison.

Dozens of people in the State of Oregon have come forward to tell of their tragic experiences with steel-jawed traps, leghold traps, neck snares, and Conibear traps.

A chief copetitioner of the Oregon ballot measure is Jennifer Kirkpatrick, from the rural community of Scappoose, who has the story of being in a stream and had the misfortune of having her hand caught in the vice-like grip of one of these traps, a device set out in the water to crush the vertebrae of beaver, muskrat, or otter that swims into it. She indicated it was the most excruciating pain she had ever endured.

Because the trap was so large and powerful, she could not free her hand, with the trap crushing it. I think we can all imagine a car door slammed on our hand. She had to walk a quarter mile to her car and then drive several miles to a neighbor's home. The neighbor struggled 15 minutes to pry open that trap. She experienced a near complete loss of the use of her hand for 9 years. And being a seamstress, she was out of work and feared that her career would be over.

No place in Oregon, nor any other place in the West, is a logical area for the widespread use of these horrific traps and poisons at taxpayer expense. This amendment helps correct the problem. It does not stop private individuals who want to protect their livestock as they see fit. It simply requires the ranchers to assume the responsibility if they want to use these lethal weapons. I strongly urge approval of the amendment.

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman

from New Mexico (Mr. SKEEN) that the Committee do now rise.

The question was taken; and the Chairman announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Chairman, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent to withdraw the request.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the motion to rise is withdrawn.

There was no objection.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. SKEEN) controls 11 minutes and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFazio) controls 7 minutes.

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. STENHOLM).

(Mr. STENHOLM asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STENHOLM. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to the DeFazio amendment again this year, and for the basic same reasons we have in the past. There is a lot of misinformation about what this amendment does and does not do.

And I concede the point to the gentleman, and all of those who are proposing this amendment, that they are opposed to killing of wolves and coyotes and other animals that do great damage to American agriculture. I concede that point. But from the standpoint of what this amendment does, I think it is important to understand, first off, that the Wildlife Services program is a highly specialized organization within the United States Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. Wildlife Services uses, uses now, contrary to the previous Speaker, integrated wildlife management techniques and strategies to minimize the negative impacts of wildlife on livestock and crops, human health and safety, property, and threatened and endangered species.

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If this amendment were to pass, the \$7 million, the DeFazio amendment would redirect the \$10 million in additional funds by prohibiting their use for livestock protection programs. Because of the cooperative nature of this program, a \$7 million cut and a redirection of funds actually results in a total loss in the program of \$23.7 million.

Now, this also will knock out \$2 million of the bill's appropriated funds to increase wildlife services that will be dealing with the rabies control program and collaborations. The DeFazio amendment would not only cause a loss of \$2 million for this important program, but would also cause an additional loss of cooperative money by local sponsors.

The funding for these wildlife professionals provides the basis that allows

the State to devote funds for permanent personnel to perform all of the duties of animal control. By limiting the duties that wildlife professionals perform, we undermine the entire program.

Please oppose this misguided amendment.

Mr. DEFazio. Mr. Chairman, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA).

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of the DeFazio-Bass-Morella amendment. What this amendment does is it would simply cut \$7 million from the Department of Agriculture's Wildlife Services program, which would bring their budget to \$28.7 million, as requested by the administration.

Wildlife Services spends millions of dollars annually to kill more than 100,000 coyotes, foxes, bears, mountain lions, and other predators in the Western United States. Although non-lethal alternatives do exist, Wildlife Services chooses to shoot, poison, trap and even club to death both target and non-target animals.

This is a taxpayer subsidy, as has been mentioned; and this taxpayer subsidy gives ranchers a disincentive to seek alternative methods of livestock protection that might be far more effective.

The USDA predator control methods are non-selective, they are inefficient, they are inhumane. Aerial gunning, sodium cyanide poisoning, steel-jawed leghold traps and neck snares are all common methods used by Wildlife Services. These techniques have been known to kill pets, as well as endangered and threatened species. Much of the killing is conducted before livestock is released into an area, with the expectation that predators will become a problem. However, killing wildlife to protect livestock is effective only if the individual animals who attack livestock are removed. Targeting the entire population is needlessly cruel, it wastes taxpayer dollars, and it can be counterproductive.

With this amendment, the Wildlife Services program could leave intact the research, education, and exchange of new information on wildlife damage management and non-lethal methods. Programs would also be funded to assist with non-lethal predator protection services and in cases to protect human and endangered species lives.

Reducing the proposed budget of Wildlife Services to the administration's request would send the message, would send the message, that efforts must be made to implement humane methods of protecting livestock. I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Chairman, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN).

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Chairman, my colleague from Texas earlier

used a little better quality shot of this. My colleague from Maryland who just spoke talked about how we need more humane protection of livestock. Let me tell the gentlewoman from Maryland about this picture. Let me tell about this picture.

Twenty-eight sheep were killed in one night by cougars. There were guard dogs, four of them, guarding these sheep. There were sheep herders on site when Sky Crebbs, a rancher in my district, ended up with this kill. This photo is so gruesome, I covered these up. My colleague from Texas did not do that. But it is so gruesome, I covered them up.

This is not unusual. I want to enter into the record, Mr. Chairman, a letter from Phil Ward, who is the head of the Oregon Department of Agriculture. It says: "According to a recent survey conducted by the Oregon Agricultural Statistics Service, more than \$158 million of annual damage to Oregon agricultural products occurs from wildlife."

All across my district, Mr. Speaker, we are seeing more and more incidents of predator problems: 144 pets were killed in Oregon in 1997, 165 in 1998, and 203 in 1999.

Let me share with you some headlines out of our local newspapers: "Agents track cougar that tussled with man."

"Cougar attacks and kills colt. Upset rancher threatens suit."

"Cougars come home to town."

"Calls from residents rise as the once elusive cat grows."

"Annie Hoyer figured raccoons had gotten into an attached shed last spring when a banging against the side of the house woke her early one morning. But that afternoon she found the eviscerated carcass of a deer in her backyard. 'It must have been about how farmers feel when they find a mutilated cow and blame it on aliens,' she said."

"Cougar shot in La Grande neighborhood."

"Cougar seen in Ashland still around."

"Elk herds continue nose-dive because of predators."

"USDA employee kills big cougar out at Cottage Grove." My friend and colleague from the fourth district may be interested in this one: "A 7-foot 5½ inch male weighing 135 pounds was tracked down and shot after it killed its 30th sheep on a ranch near Elkton."

This is a serious problem if you are in a rural district like mine, with 70,000 square miles. Part of the problem is the Federal Government is the landlord of over half that land.

So I believe these people, who pay taxes and farm and ranch in this country, have the right to expect that the neighbor, the Federal Government on over 55 percent of the land, has an obligation to help manage this.

That is why, with predators on the rise, we should not be cutting funds. We should be using as many non-lethal

efforts as possible, but that is not always possible. When you get a 7-foot cougar that has killed its 30th lamb, it is time for action before it kills a person.

Mr. Chairman, I include the letter referred to above for the RECORD.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
Salem, OR, May 19, 2000.

Hon. JOE SKEEN,
Chairman, Committee on Appropriations, Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN SKEEN: Early next week the House of Representatives will vote on appropriations for the U.S. Department of Agriculture and related agencies.

I urge your support for full funding of the USDA-APHIS Wildlife Services programs. The Oregon Department of Agriculture works in cost-sharing and program relationships with USDA Wildlife Services to address the concerns of wildlife damage to agriculture crops in Oregon. Many producers also provide cost-share for the use of this program.

According to a recent survey conducted by the Oregon Agricultural Statistics Service, more than \$158 million of annual damage to Oregon agricultural products occurs from wildlife.

APHIS/Wildlife Services also provides services through cooperative agreements with thousands of entities nationwide, including state game and fish agencies, state departments of health, city and local governments, school districts, colleges, airports, the U.S. military, Indian tribes, National Wildlife Refuges, departments of transportation, homeowner associations, electrical companies and many other parties.

I strongly request that you oppose any reduction in funding, and fully support adequate increases for necessary staffing and program costs.

Sincerely,

PHILLIP C. WARD,
Director.

STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
Salem, Oregon, May 18-19, 2000.

BOARD OF AGRICULTURE OPPOSES ANY REDUCTION TO THE USDA-APHIS WILDLIFE SERVICES BUDGET

Whereas agriculture is a leading economic force in Oregon and the United States, and

Whereas the Wildlife Damage Survey identified in excess of \$158 million of annual damage to Oregon agricultural products, and

Whereas agricultural producers implement \$6 million of wildlife damage prevention efforts themselves and still require professional assistance from USDA-APHIS Wildlife Services, and

Whereas USDA-APHIS Wildlife Services delivers services to minimize the impact of wildlife damage which are vital to agriculture and to all segments of the population.

Be it resolved that the Oregon State Board of Agriculture opposes any reduction to the USDA-APHIS Wildlife Services budget.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) has 4½ minutes remaining, and the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. SKEEN) has 6 minutes remaining.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Chairman, if I could inquire on the time, I yielded myself 3 minutes, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) 3 minutes, the gentleman from New Hampshire (Mr. BASS) 2 minutes, and the gentleman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA) 3 minutes.

How did we get that one-half minute in there?

The CHAIRMAN. The gentlewoman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA) did not consume the entire amount of time and yielded back one-half minute.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DEUTSCH).

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Chairman, this is an amendment where hopefully all of my colleagues will spend a little bit of time understanding the specifics of the amendment. It is an amendment which truly is very simple when we understand it and we look at the specifics of the amendment.

The specifics of the amendment deal with a corporate welfare program that exists in the United States of America as bad as any corporate welfare program that exists in this country. It specifically applies to ranchers, specifically to a function that there is no justifiable policy reason that taxpayers across this country should be subsidizing these ranchers. That is the program. That is what we are talking about.

We are not talking about whether or not coyotes should exist or whether or not ranchers should have the ability to do animal control. That is not what this amendment is about. What this amendment is about is taxpayer money being spent on a private function without a public purpose. That is what it is about, and that is why I urge the adoption of the amendment.

In a sort of Hobson effect, though, this is a program which is not even effective, which is one of the weird things about this; that there are in fact more effective ways to deal with animal control that have been done in many places without the use and the methods that are used by the Animal Damage Control program.

This is a program that the public holds in poor regard because it reflects a callous attitude and a waste of taxpayers' dollars. This program amounts to nothing more than corporate welfare. I urge the adoption of the amendment.

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in strong support of the amendment sponsored by the gentleman from Oregon to decrease funding by \$7 million for the Department of Agriculture's Wildlife Services program.

This program is costly, unnecessary, inhumane, dangerous and continues to expand eliminating any landowner incentive to control predators through other more cost-effective and humane measures.

The predator control program is not cost-effective and its funding has increased to almost \$10 million annually. Sheep and cattle killed by predators could be replaced at one-third the cost the government spends in trying to control predators. These predatory control methods are dangerous for the animals, but some of the forms of predatory control such as aerial gunning are also high risk to Wildlife Service employees. Since 1996, six employees have been killed in four helicopter and plane crashes, the most recent occurred on March 27, 2000.

Ranchers should be taking care of predator control problems themselves. This amendment would not prevent ranchers and farmers from doing so. Currently, because of the federal subsidy, ranchers are discouraged from using more effective, humane, less-costly, and non-lethal methods such as guard dogs, electric sound and light devices, or predator exclusion fencing. There is no incentive for ranchers to use these types of control methods because the government is paying to kill the wild animals which attack these farmers' livestock. I don't object to farmers and ranchers protecting their property but I do object to the federal government paying for it.

Again, this program is costly, unnecessary, inhumane, and dangerous. I urge the adoption of the amendment.

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of the DeFazio-Bass-Morella amendment to the Agriculture Appropriations bill.

While I know the Wildlife Services engage in a number of valuable programs to mitigate human-wildlife conflicts, such as the bird control program at Denver International Airport, I am troubled by the reckless and seemingly inhumane procedures undertaken by this agency.

The most disturbing, not to mention dangerous, Wildlife Services endeavor is the Aerial Hunting Campaign. Over the past 10 years, 31 people have been injured, 7 of them fatally, in Wildlife Services aircraft accidents. Low altitude, low speed flying in remote areas is invariably high risk. To me this seems like a hazardous and costly way to go about predator control. As if that was not enough, Aerial Gunning does not help reduce livestock losses because it does not target offending animals, predators that we know are feeding on livestock.

For my colleagues who are not swayed by the disturbing, twisted excesses of the Wildlife Services program, I encourage you to look at the flawed economics behind this program. For every dollar of reported livestock damage, the Wildlife Services spends three dollars in the West to fix the problem.

The DeFazio-Bass amendment offered today is less punitive than amendments offered in previous years. It allows the agency to retain adequate funding, but compels the program to use tax dollars to kill the public's wildlife through a subsidy for private ranchers.

I encourage my colleagues to support the amendment.

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WALDEN of Oregon) having assumed the chair, Mr. Nussle, Chairman of the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4461) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

LIMITATION ON AMENDMENTS DURING FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4611, AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2001

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that during the further consideration of H.R. 4461 in the Committee of the Whole pursuant to House Resolution 538, that no further amendments to the bill shall be in order except, one, pro forma amendments offered by the chairman or ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their designees for the purpose of debate; two, the following additional amendments, which shall be debatable for 10 minutes:

The amendments printed in the portion of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD designated for that purpose in clause 8 of rule XVIII and numbered 9, 29, 32, 37, 48, 61 and 68.

Each additional amendment may be offered only by the Member designated in this request, or a designee, or the Member who caused it to be printed, or a designee, and shall be considered as read. Each additional amendment shall be debatable for the time specified, equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, and shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for a division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Mexico?

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, for the purpose of discussion, I want to just clarify, because we have some Members on this side who have brought amendments up just recently and we had not expected those. I wanted to make sure that those Members understood that under this unanimous consent agreement, which I will ultimately support, I do not believe that they would be able to bring their amendments up. I wanted to clarify that.

The only amendments that would be allowed would be those that have already been printed in the RECORD?

Mr. SKEEN. If the gentlewoman will yield, that is correct.

Ms. KAPTUR. And available to the committee?

Mr. SKEEN. That is correct.

Ms. KAPTUR. For example, we have a Member here who may want to be recognized at this point to ascertain whether her amendments would be in order under this unanimous consent agreement. I would not want to preclude the gentlewoman from being at least able to inquire as to whether those amendments would be allowed.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, will the gentlewoman yield?

Ms. KAPTUR. I yield to the gentlewoman from California.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to inquire as to whether or not the

three amendments that are being referenced are included in this group that is being agreed upon? These are three amendments that we had prepared. We did not realize that there would be perhaps a reduction or closing off of the opportunity to present amendments. I would certainly ask my colleagues to include these three amendments in this group.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, I believe these would be the only three amendments on this side that currently are not allowed under the unanimous consent request. They all concern serious issues of civil rights and litigation related to that at the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, could I ask the gentleman from New Mexico (Chairman SKEEN) a question under the reservation of objection of the gentlewoman from Ohio? Could I ask whether or not, since it is my understanding that the amendments of the gentlewoman from California are subject to points of order, is it possible under the unanimous consent request that the gentleman is proposing, for those to be handled under the pro forma procedure laid out in the unanimous consent request?

Mr. SKEEN. If the gentlewoman will yield, yes.

Mr. OBEY. So the gentlewoman would be able to offer those amendments, even though they would be subject to a point of order? The gentlewoman cannot get a vote on the amendment, obviously, but we could strike the last word so that she can make the point that she wants on each of the three amendments?

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Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Speaker, I will move to strike the last word and then yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) at the appropriate time.

Mr. OBEY. So the gentleman will rise to strike the last word and recognize the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS)?

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Speaker, that is correct.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman so much for that allowance. We realize it is in the nature of an unusual request, but we were unprepared as well until very recently. I also thank the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS).

Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WALDEN of Oregon). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Mexico?

There was no objection.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2001

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 538 and rule

XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 4461.

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IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 4461) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes, with Mr. NUSSLE in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. When the Committee of the Whole rose earlier today, pending was the amendment numbered 39 offered by the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO).

SEQUENTIAL VOTES POSTPONED IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to House Resolution 538, proceedings will now resume on those amendments on which further proceedings were postponed in the following order: amendment No. 6 offered by the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN); amendment No. 47 offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE); amendment No. 36 offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. CROWLEY); amendment No. 51 offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE); an amendment offered by the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN); and amendment No. 33 offered by the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. SANFORD).

The Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the time for any electronic vote after the first vote in the series.

AMENDMENT NO. 6 OFFERED BY MR. COBURN

The CHAIRMAN. The pending business is the demand for a recorded vote on amendment No. 6 offered by the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 182, noes 187, not voting 65, as follows:

[Roll No. 373]

AYES—182

Aderholt	Bilirakis	Canady
Archer	Bliley	Cannon
Armey	Blunt	Coble
Bachus	Bonilla	Coburn
Baker	Bono	Combest
Barcia	Borski	Cooksey
Barrett (NE)	Brady (TX)	Costello
Bartlett	Bryant	Cox
Barton	Burton	Crane
Bateman	Buyer	Cubin
Bereuter	Callahan	Cunningham
Berry	Calvert	Danner

DeLay	LaHood	Ros-Lehtinen
Diaz-Balart	Largent	Royce
Dickey	Latham	Ryan (WI)
Doolittle	Lewis (KY)	Ryun (KS)
Doyle	Linder	Salmon
Dreier	LoBiondo	Sanford
Dunn	Lucas (OK)	Saxton
Ehlers	Manzullo	Schaffer
Emerson	Martinez	Sensenbrenner
English	Mascara	Sessions
Everett	McCrery	Shadegg
Ewing	McHugh	Shaw
Fletcher	McInnis	Sherwood
Galleghy	McIntyre	Shimkus
Gekas	McKeon	Shows
Gillmor	Metcalfe	Shuster
Goode	Mica	Simpson
Goodlatte	Miller, Gary	Skeen
Goodling	Mollohan	Skelton
Goss	Moran (KS)	Smith (NJ)
Green (WI)	Murtha	Souder
Gutknecht	Nethercutt	Spence
Hall (OH)	Ney	Stearns
Hall (TX)	Northup	Stenholm
Hastings (WA)	Nussle	Stump
Hayes	Oberstar	Stupak
Hayworth	Ortiz	Sununu
Hefley	Oxley	Tancredo
Hergert	Packard	Tauzin
Hill (MT)	Paul	Terry
Hobson	Pease	Thornberry
Hoekstra	Peterson (MN)	Thune
Holden	Peterson (PA)	Tiahrt
Hostettler	Petri	Traficant
Hunter	Phelps	Visclosky
Hutchinson	Pickering	Vitter
Hyde	Pitts	Walden
Istook	Pombo	Walsh
John	Portman	Wamp
Johnson, Sam	Quinn	Watts (OK)
Jones (NC)	Radanovich	Weldon (FL)
Kanjorski	Rahall	Weldon (PA)
Kasich	Regula	Weller
Kildee	Reynolds	Weygand
King (NY)	Riley	Whitfield
Kingston	Roemer	Wicker
Knollenberg	Rogan	Wolf
Kucinich	Rogers	Young (FL)
LaFalce	Rohrabacher	

NOES—187

Abercrombie	Dixon	Klecza
Ackerman	Doggett	Kolbe
Allen	Dooley	Kuykendall
Andrews	Edwards	Lampson
Baca	Ehrlich	Lantos
Baird	Engel	Larson
Baldacci	Eshoo	Leach
Baldwin	Etheridge	Levin
Barrett (WI)	Evans	Lewis (GA)
Bass	Farr	Lofgren
Bentsen	Filner	Lowey
Berman	Foley	Luther
Biggart	Frank (MA)	Maloney (NY)
Bilbray	Franks (NJ)	Markey
Bishop	Frelinghuysen	Matsui
Blagojevich	Frost	McCarthy (MO)
Blumenauer	Ganske	McCarthy (NY)
Boehlert	Gejdenson	McDermott
Bonior	Gephardt	McGovern
Boswell	Gibbons	McKinney
Boucher	Gilman	Meehan
Brady (PA)	Gonzalez	Meek (FL)
Brown (FL)	Gordon	Meeks (NY)
Brown (OH)	Granger	Menendez
Capps	Green (TX)	Millender
Capuano	Greenwood	McDonald
Cardin	Gutierrez	Miller (FL)
Carson	Hastings (FL)	Miller, George
Castle	Hilliard	Minge
Clay	Hinchey	Mink
Clayton	Hoeffel	Moore
Clement	Holt	Moran (VA)
Clyburn	Hooley	Morella
Condit	Horn	Nadler
Conyers	Houghton	Napolitano
Cramer	Hoyer	Neal
Crowley	Inslee	Obey
Cummings	Jackson (IL)	Olver
Davis (FL)	Jackson-Lee	Ose
Davis (IL)	(TX)	Pallone
DeFazio	Jefferson	Pascarell
DeGette	Johnson (CT)	Pastor
DeLaunt	Johnson, E. B.	Pelosi
DeLauro	Jones (OH)	Pickett
Deutsch	Kaptur	Pomeroy
Dicks	Kelly	Porter
Dingell	Kennedy	Price (NC)
	Kind (WI)	Ramstad

Rangel	Sisisky	Toomey
Reyes	Slaughter	Towns
Rivers	Smith (MI)	Turner
Rodriguez	Smith (TX)	Udall (CO)
Rothman	Snyder	Udall (NM)
Roukema	Stabenow	Upton
Roybal-Allard	Stark	Velazquez
Sabo	Strickland	Waters
Sanders	Sweeney	Weiner
Sandlin	Tauscher	Wexler
Sawyer	Thomas	Wilson
Schakowsky	Thompson (CA)	Wise
Scott	Thompson (MS)	Woolsey
Serrano	Thurman	Wu
Sherman	Tierney	Wynn

NOT VOTING—65

Ballenger	Fowler	Moakley
Barr	Gilchrest	Myrick
Becerra	Graham	Norwood
Berkley	Hansen	Owens
Boehner	Hill (IN)	Payne
Burr	Hilleary	Pryce (OH)
Camp	Hinojosa	Rush
Campbell	Hulshof	Sanchez
Chabot	Isakson	Scarborough
Chambliss	Jenkins	Shays
Chenoweth-Hage	Kilpatrick	Smith (WA)
Collins	Klink	Spratt
Cook	LaTourette	Talent
Coyne	Lazio	Tanner
Davis (VA)	Lee	Taylor (MS)
Deal	Lewis (CA)	Taylor (NC)
DeMint	Lipinski	Vento
Duncan	Lucas (KY)	Watkins
Fattah	Maloney (CT)	Watt (NC)
Forbes	McCollum	Waxman
Ford	McIntosh	Young (AK)
Fossella	McNulty	

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Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island, Mr. MARKEY and Mrs. BIGGERT changed their vote from “aye” to “no.”

Mr. OBERSTAR changed his vote from “no” to “aye.”

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Chairman, during rollcall vote No. 373 I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted “no.”

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to House Resolution 538, the Chair announces that he will reduce to a minimum of 5 minutes the period of time within which a vote by electronic device will be taken on each amendment on which the Chair has postponed further proceedings.

AMENDMENT NO. 47 OFFERED BY MR. ROYCE

The CHAIRMAN. The pending business is the demand for a recorded vote on Amendment No. 47 offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by a voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The CHAIRMAN. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 53, noes 316, not voting 65, as follows:

[Roll No. 374]

AYES—53

Archer
Arney
Barton
Biggert
Bilbray
Brady (TX)
Burton
Cannon
Coble
Coburn
Cox
Crane
DeLay
Ehrlich
Franks (NJ)
Goode
Gutknecht
Hayworth

Hefley
Heger
Hoekstra
Hostettler
Hunter
Istook
Johnson, Sam
Kasich
Linder
Manzullo
Metcalf
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller, Gary
Paul
Pease
Petri
Pitts

Radanovich
Ramstad
Rohrabacher
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Ryun (KS)
Salmon
Sanford
Schaffer
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Stearns
Sununu
Tancredo
Toomey
Vitter

NOES—316

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Allen
Andrews
Baca
Bachus
Baird
Baker
Baldacci
Baldwin
Barcia
Barrett (NE)
Barrett (WI)
Bartlett
Bass
Bateman
Bentsen
Bereuter
Berman
Berry
Bilirakis
Bishop
Blagojevich
Bliley
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehlert
Bonilla
Bonior
Bono
Borski
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd
Brady (PA)
Brown (FL)
Brown (OH)
Bryant
Buyer
Callahan
Calvert
Canady
Capps
Capuano
Cardin
Carson
Castle
Clay
Clayton
Clement
Clyburn
Combust
Condit
Conyers
Cooksey
Costello
Cramer
Crowley
Cubin
Cummings
Cunningham
Danner
Davis (FL)
Davis (IL)
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Deutsch
Diaz-Balart
Dickey
Dicks
Dingell
Dixon
Doggett

Dooley
Doolittle
Doyle
Dreier
Dunn
Edwards
Ehlers
Emerson
Engel
English
Eshoo
Etheridge
Evans
Everett
Ewing
Farr
Filner
Fletcher
Foley
Ford
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Frost
Gallegly
Ganske
Gejdenson
Gekas
Gephardt
Gibbons
Gillmor
Gilman
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Goodling
Gordon
Goss
Granger
Green (TX)
Green (WI)
Greenwood
Gutierrez
Hall (OH)
Hall (TX)
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hill (MT)
Hilliard
Hinchey
Hobson
Hoeffel
Holden
Holt
Hooley
Horn
Houghton
Hoyer
Hutchinson
Hyde
Inlee
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee
(TX)
Jefferson
John
Johnson (CT)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kelly
Kennedy
Kildee
Kind (WI)
King (NY)

Kingston
Klecza
Knollenberg
Kolbe
Kucinich
Kuykendall
LaFalce
LaHood
Lampson
Lantos
Largent
Larson
Latham
Leach
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
LoBiondo
Lofgren
Lowey
Lucas (OK)
Luther
Maloney (NY)
Markey
Martinez
Mascara
Matsui
McCarthy (MO)
McCarthy (NY)
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McInnis
McIntyre
McKinney
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Menendez
Millender-
McDonald
Miller, George
Minge
Mink
Mollohan
Moore
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Morella
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Nethercutt
Nussle
Oberstar
Obey
Oliver
Ortiz
Ose
Oxley
Packard
Pallone
Pascarell
Pastor
Paul
Pelosi
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Phelps
Pickering
Pickett
Pombo

Pomeroy
Porter
Portman
Price (NC)
Quinn
Rahall
Rangel
Regula
Reyes
Reynolds
Riley
Rivers
Rodriguez
Roemer
Rogan
Rogers
Ros-Lehtinen
Rothman
Roukema
Roybal-Allard
Sabo
Sanders
Sandlin
Sawyer
Saxton
Schakowsky
Scott
Serrano
Shaw
Sherman

Sherwood
Shimkus
Shows
Shuster
Simpson
Sisisky
Skeen
Skeltion
Slaughter
Smith (MI)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Snyder
Souder
Spence
Stabenow
Stark
Stenholm
Strickland
Stump
Stupak
Sweeney
Tauscher
Tauzin
Terry
Thomas
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thornberry
Thune

Thurman
Tiahrt
Tierney
Towns
Traficant
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Velazquez
Visclosky
Walden
Walsh
Wamp
Watts (OK)
Weiner
Weldon (FL)
Weldon (PA)
Weller
Wexler
Weygand
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson
Wise
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—65

Ballenger
Barr
Becerra
Berkley
Boehner
Burr
Camp
Campbell
Chabot
Chambliss
Chenoweth-Hage
Collins
Cook
Coynne
Davis (VA)
Deal
DeMint
Duncan
Fattah
Forbes
Fossella
Fowler

Gilchrest
Graham
Hansen
Hill (IN)
Hilleary
Hinojosa
Hulshof
Isakson
Jenkins
Kilpatrick
Klink
LaTourette
Lazio
Lee
Lewis (CA)
Lipinski
Lucas (KY)
Maloney (CT)
McCollum
McIntosh
McNulty
Moakley

Myrick
Norwood
Owens
Payne
Pryce (OH)
Rush
Sanchez
Scarborough
Shays
Smith (WA)
Spratt
Talent
Tanner
Taylor (MS)
Taylor (NC)
Waters
Watkins
Watt (NC)
Waxman
Young (AK)

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So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Chairman, during rollcall vote No. 374 I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

AMENDMENT NO. 36 OFFERED BY MR. CROWLEY

The CHAIRMAN. The pending business is the demand for a recorded vote on Amendment No. 36 offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. CROWLEY) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by a voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The CHAIRMAN. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 363, noes 12, not voting 59, as follows:

[Roll No. 375]

AYES—363

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt

Allen
Andrews
Arney

Baca
Bachus
Baird

Baker
Baldacci
Baldwin
Barcia
Barr
Barrett (NE)
Barrett (WI)
Bartlett
Barton
Bass
Bentsen
Bereuter
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop
Blagojevich
Bliley
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehlert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bonior
Bono
Borski
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Brown (FL)
Brown (OH)
Bryant
Buyer
Callahan
Calvert
Canady
Cannon
Capps
Capuano
Cardin
Carson
Castle
Clay
Clayton
Clement
Clyburn
Coble
Coburn
Combust
Condit
Conyers
Cooksey
Costello
Cox
Cramer
Crowley
Cubin
Cummings
Cunningham
Danner
Davis (FL)
Davis (IL)
Deal
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
DeLay
Deutsch
Diaz-Balart
Dickey
Dicks
Dixon
Doggett
Doolittle
Doyle
Duncan
Dunn
Edwards
Ehlers
Ehrlich
Emerson
Engel
English
Eshoo
Etheridge
Evans
Everett
Ewing
Farr
Filner
Fletcher
Foley

Ford
Frank (MA)
Frost
Gallegly
Ganske
McKinney
Meehan
Gekas
Meek (FL)
Gephardt
Gibbons
Gillmor
Gilman
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Goodling
Gordon
Goss
Granger
Green (TX)
Green (WI)
Greenwood
Gutierrez
Hall (OH)
Hall (TX)
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hill (MT)
Hilliard
Hinchey
Hobson
Hoeffel
Holden
Holt
Hooley
Horn
Houghton
Hoyer
Hutchinson
Hyde
Inlee
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee
(TX)
Jefferson
John
Johnson (CT)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kelly
Kennedy
Kildee
Kind (WI)
King (NY)

McHugh
McInnis
McIntyre
McKeon
Ganske
McKinney
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Menendez
Metcalf
Mica
Millender-
McDonald
Miller (FL)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Minge
Mink
Mollohan
Moore
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Morella
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Nethercutt
Nussle
Oberstar
Obey
Oliver
Ortiz
Ose
Oxley
Packard
Pallone
Pascarell
Pastor
Paul
Pelosi
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Phelps
Pickering
Pickett
Pombo

Skelton Terry
Slaughter Thompson (CA)
Smith (MI) Thompson (MS)
Smith (NJ) Thornberry
Smith (TX) Thune
Snyder Thurman
Souder Tiahrt
Spence Tierney
Stabenow Toomey
Stark Towns
Stearns Traficant
Stenholm Turner
Strickland Udall (CO)
Stump Udall (NM)
Stupak Upton
Sununu Velazquez
Sweeney Visclosky
Tancredo Vitter
Tauscher Walden
Tauzin Walsh

NOES—12

Archer Franks (NJ) McCreery
Dingell Frelinghuysen Pease
Dooley Holt Roukema
Dreier Knollenberg Thomas

NOT VOTING—59

Ballenger Graham Myrick
Bateman Hansen Norwood
Becerra Hill (IN) Owens
Berkley Hilleary Payne
Burr Hinojosa Pryce (OH)
Camp Hulshof Rush
Campbell Isakson Sanchez
Chabot Jenkins Scarborough
Chambliss Kilpatrick
Chenoweth-Hage Klink Smith (WA)
Collins LaTourette Spratt
Cook Lazio Talent
Coyne Lee Tanner
Davis (VA) Lewis (CA) Taylor (MS)
DeMint Lipinski Taylor (NC)
Fattah Maloney (CT) Vento
Forbes McCollum Watt (NC)
Fossella McIntosh Waxman
Fowler McNulty Young (AK)
Gilchrest Moakley

2059

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Chairman, during rollcall vote No. 375 I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Chairman, due to mechanical difficulties, my flight was 262 minutes late which is why I missed rollcall votes No. 373, No. 374, and No. 375. Had I been present, I would have voted no on No. 373, no on No. 374, and yes on No. 375.

AMENDMENT NO. 51 OFFERED BY MR. ROYCE

The CHAIRMAN. The pending business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment No. 51 offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The CHAIRMAN. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 77, noes 301, not voting 56, as follows:

[Roll No. 376]

AYES—77

Andrews Hoekstra Ramstad
Archer Holt Rivers
Armey Hostettler Rohrabacher
Barr Hyde Rothman
Barrett (WI) Istook Roukema
Bass Kelly Royce
Berkley Kind (WI) Ryun (KS)
Brown (OH) Kleczka Salmon
Cannon Largent Sanford
Chabot Linder Saxton
Coble LoBiondo Scarborough
Coburn Lowey Sensenbrenner
Cox Luther Shadegg
Crane Manzullo Shaw
Cunningham McInnis Stark
DeLay McKinney Stearns
Doggett Meehan Sununu
Duncan Miller (FL) Tancredo
Ehlers Miller, Gary Tierney
Ehrlich Morella Toomey
English Nadler Udall (CO)
Franks (NJ) Pallone Visclosky
Frelinghuysen Pascrell Wamp
Green (TX) Paul Weiner
Hayworth Petri Wu
Hefley Portman

NOES—301

Abercrombie DeGette Jackson-Lee
Ackerman Delahunt (TX)
Aderholt DeLauro Jefferson
Allen Deutsch Jenkins
Baca Diaz-Balart John
Bachus Dickey Johnson (CT)
Baird Dicks Johnson, E.B.
Baker Dixon Jones (NC)
Baldrac Jones (OH)
Barcia Kanjorski
Barrett (NE) Kaptur
Bartlett Kasich
Barton Kennedy
Bateman Kildee
Bentsen King (NY)
Bereuter Kingston
Berman Knollenberg
Berry Eshoo Kolbe
Biggert Etheridge Kucinich
Bilbray Evans Kuykendall
Bilirakis Everett Kuykendall
Bishop Ewing LaFalce
Blagojevich Farr LaHood
Bliley Filner Lampson
Blumenauer Fletcher Lantos
Blunt Ford Larson
Boehlert Frank (MA) Leach
Boehner Frost Levin
Bonilla Gallegly Lewis (GA)
Bonior Ganske Lewis (KY)
Bono Gejdenson Lofgren
Borski Gekas Lucas (KY)
Boswell Gephardt Lucas (OK)
Boucher Gibbons Maloney (NY)
Boyd Gillmor Markey
Brady (PA) Gilman Martinez
Brady (TX) Gonzalez Mascara
Brown (FL) Goode Matsui
Bryant McCarthy (MO)
Burton McCarthy (NY)
Buyer McCrery
Callahan McDermott
Calvert Goss
Canady Granger McGovern
Capps Green (WI) McHugh
Capuano Greenwood McIntyre
Cardin Gutierrez McKeon
Carson Gutknecht Meek (FL)
Castle Hall (OH) Menendez
Clay Hall (TX) Metcalf
Clayton Hastings (FL) Mica
Clement Hastings (WA) Millender-
Clyburn Hayes McDonald
Combest Herger Miller, George
Condit Hill (MT) Minge
Conyers Hilliard Mink
Cooksey Hinchey Mollohan
Costello Hobson Moore
Cramer Hoeft Moran (KS)
Crowley Holden Moran (VA)
Cubin Hooley Murtha
Cummings Horn Napolitano
Danner Houghton Neal
Davis (FL) Hoyer Nethercutt
Davis (IL) Hunter Ney
Deal Inslee Northup
DeFazio Jackson (IL) Nussle

Oberstar Sanders Thompson (CA)
Obey Sawyer Thompson (MS)
Oliver Schaffer Thornberry
Ortiz Schakowsky Thune
Ose Scott Thurman
Oxley Serrano Tiahrt
Packard Sessions Towns
Pastor Sherman Traficant
Pease Sherwood Turner
Peterson (MN) Shimkus Udall (NM)
Peterson (PA) Shows Upton
Phelps Shuster Velazquez
Pickering Simpson Vitter
Pickett Siskis Walden
Pitts Skeen Walsh
Pombo Skelton Waters
Pomeroy Slaughter Watkins
Porter Smith (MI) Watt (NC)
Price (NC) Smith (NJ) Watts (OK)
Quinn Smith (TX) Weldon (FL)
Rahall Snyder Weldon (PA)
Rangel Souder Weller
Regula Spence Wexler
Reyes Spratt Weygand
Reynolds Stabenow Whitfield
Riley Stenholm Wicker
Rodriguez Strickland Wilson
Roemer Stump Wise
Rogan Stupak Wolf
Rogers Sweeney Woolsey
Ros-Lehtinen Tauscher Wynn
Roybal-Allard Tauzin Young (FL)
Ryan (WI) Terry
Sabo Thomas

NOT VOTING—56

Ballenger Hill (IN) Norwood
Becerra Hilleary Owens
Burr Hinojosa Payne
Camp Hulshof Pelosi
Campbell Hutchinson Pryce (OH)
Chambliss Isakson Radanovich
Chenoweth-Hage Kilpatrick Rush
Collins Klink Sanchez
Cook LaTourette Sandlin
Coyne Lazio Shays
Davis (VA) Lee Smith (WA)
DeMint Lewis (CA) Talent
Fattah Lipinski Tanner
Forbes Maloney (CT) Taylor (MS)
Fossella McCollum Taylor (NC)
Fowler McIntosh Vento
Gilchrest McNulty Waxman
Graham Moakley Young (AK)
Hansen Myrick

2106

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Chairman, during rollcall vote No. 376 on July 10, 2000, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. COBURN

The CHAIRMAN. The pending business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The Clerk designated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The CHAIRMAN. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 370, noes 12, not voting 52, as follows:

[Roll No. 377]

AYES—370

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Allen
Andrews
Armey
Baca
Bachus
Baird
Baker
Baldacci
Baldwin
Ballenger
Barcia
Barr
Barrett (NE)
Barrett (WI)
Bartlett
Barton
Bass
Bateman
Bentsen
Bereuter
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Billbray
Bilirakis
Bishop
Blagojevich
Bliley
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehlert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bonior
Bono
Borski
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Brown (FL)
Brown (OH)
Bryant
Burton
Buyer
Callahan
Calvert
Canady
Cannon
Capps
Capuano
Cardin
Carson
Castle
Chabot
Clay
Clayton
Clement
Clyburn
Coble
Coburn
Combest
Condit
Costello
Cox
Cramer
Crowley
Cubin
Cummings
Cunningham
Danner
Davis (FL)
Davis (IL)
Deal
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
DeLay
Deutsch
Diaz-Balart
Dickey
Dicks
Dixon
Doggett
Doolittle
Doyle
Dreier
Duncan
Dunn
Edwards

Ehlers
Ehrlich
Emerson
Engel
English
Eshoo
Etheridge
Evans
Everett
Ewing
Farr
Filner
Fletcher
Foley
Ford
Fowler
Frank (MA)
Franks (NJ)
Frelinghuysen
Frost
Gallegly
Ganske
Gejdenson
Gekas
Gephardt
Gibbons
Gillmor
Gilman
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Goodling
Gordon
Goss
Granger
Green (TX)
Green (WI)
Greenwood
Gutierrez
Gutknecht
Hall (OH)
Hall (TX)
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hayworth
Hefley
Herger
Hill (IN)
Hill (MT)
Hilliard
Hinchey
Hobson
Hoeffel
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Hooley
Horn
Hostettler
Hoyer
Hunter
Hutchinson
Hyde
Inslee
Istook
Jackson-Lee
(TX)
Jefferson
Jenkins
John
Johnson (CT)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kasich
Kelly
Kennedy
Kildee
Kind (WI)
King (NY)
Kingston
Klecza
Kolbe
Kucinich
Kuykendall
LaFalce
LaHood
Lampson
Lantos
Largent
Larson
Latham

Leach
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
LoBiondo
Lofgren
Lucas (KY)
Lucas (OK)
Luther
Maloney (NY)
Manzullo
Markey
Martinez
Mascara
Matsui
McCarthy (MO)
McCarthy (NY)
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McInnis
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinney
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Menendez
Metcalf
Mica
Millender-
McDonald
Miller (FL)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Minge
Mink
Mollohan
Moore
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Morella
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Nethercutt
Ney
Northup
Nussle
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Ose
Oxley
Packard
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Paul
Pease
Pelosi
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Phelps
Pickering
Pickett
Pitts
Pombo
Pomeroy
Portman
Price (NC)
Quinn
Radanovich
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Regula
Reyes
Reynolds
Riley
Rivers
Rodriguez
Roemer
Rogan
Rogers
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Rothman
Roukema
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ryan (WI)

Ryun (KS)

Sabo
Salmon
Sanders
Sandlin
Sanford
Sawyer
Saxton
Scarborough
Schaffer
Schakowsky
Scott
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Shadegg
Shaw
Sherman
Sherwood
Shimkus
Shows
Shuster
Simpson
Sisisky
Skeen
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (MI)

Archer
Conyers
Crane
Dingell

Becerra
Burr
Camp
Campbell
Chambliss
Chenoweth-Hage
Collins
Cook
Cooksey
Coyne
Davis (VA)
DeMint
Fattah
Forbes
Fossella
Gilchrist
Graham
Hansen

Smith (NJ)

Smith (TX)
Snyder
Souder
Spence
Spratt
Stabenow
Stark
Stearns
Stenholm
Strickland
Stump
Stupak
Sununu
Sweeney
Tancredo
Tauscher
Tauzin
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thornberry
Thune
Thurman
Tierney
Toomey
Towns

NOES—12

Dooley
Jackson (IL)
Knollenberg
Lowey

NOT VOTING—52

Hilleary
Hinojosa
Houghton
Hulshof
Isakson
Kilpatrick
Klink
LaTourette
Lazio
Lee
Lewis (CA)
Lipinski
Maloney (CT)
McCollum
McIntosh
McNulty
Moakley
Myrick

Traficant

Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Velazquez
Visclosky
Vitter
Walden
Walsh
Wamp
Watkins
Watt (NC)
Watts (OK)
Weiner
Weldon (FL)
Weldon (PA)
Wexler
Weygand
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson
Wise
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Young (FL)

McCrery
Porter
Thomas
Waters

[Roll No. 378]

AYES—59

Ehlers
Franks (NJ)
Goode
Goodlatte
Goodling
Granger
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Hefley
Herger
Hill (IN)
Hobson
Hoekstra
Hostettler
Hunter
Johnson (CT)
Johnson, Sam
Kasich
Kingston
Largent

NOES—323

Dicks
Dingell
Dixon
Doggett
Dooley
Doyle
Dreier
Edwards
Ehrlich
Emerson
Engel
English
Eshoo
Etheridge
Evans
Everett
Farr
Filner
Fletcher
Foley
Ford
Fowler
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Frost
Gallegly
Ganske
Gejdenson
Gekas
Gephardt
Gibbons
Gillmor
Gilman
Gonzalez
Gordon
Goss
Green (TX)
Green (WI)
Greenwood
Gutierrez
Gutknecht
Hall (OH)
Hall (TX)
Hastings (FL)
Hayes
Hill (MT)
Hilliard
Hinchey
Hoeffel
Holden
Holt
Hooley
Horn
Hoyer
Hutchinson
Hyde
Inslee
Istook
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee
(TX)
Jefferson
Jenkins
John
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kelly
Kennedy
Kildee
Kind (WI)
King (NY)

Manzullo
Mica
Miller, Gary
Paul
Pease
Pitts
Rohrabacher
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Salmon
Sanford
Schaffer
Sensenbrenner
Shadegg
Stearns
Stump
Thune
Toomey
Watts (OK)

Klecza
Knollenberg
Kolbe
Kucinich
Kuykendall
LaFalce
LaHood
Lampson
Lantos
Larson
Latham
Leach
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
LoBiondo
Lofgren
Lowey
Lucas (KY)
Lucas (OK)
Luther
Maloney (NY)
Markey
Martinez
Mascara
Matsui
McCarthy (MO)
McCarthy (NY)
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McInnis
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinney
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Menendez
Metcalf
Millender-
McDonald
Miller (FL)
Miller, George
Minge
Mink
Mollohan
Moore
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Morella
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Nethercutt
Ney
Northup
Nussle
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Ose
Oxley
Packard
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Pelosi
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Petri

2114

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Chairman, during rollcall vote No. 377 on July 10, 2000, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

AMENDMENT NO. 33 OFFERED BY MR. SANFORD

The CHAIRMAN. The pending business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment No. 33 offered by the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. SANFORD) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The CHAIRMAN. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 59, noes 323, not voting 52, as follows:

Phelps	Serrano	Thurman
Pickering	Sessions	Tiahrt
Pickett	Shaw	Tierney
Pombo	Sherman	Towns
Pomeroy	Sherwood	Trafficant
Porter	Shimkus	Turner
Portman	Shows	Udall (CO)
Price (NC)	Shuster	Udall (NM)
Quinn	Simpson	Upton
Radanovich	Sisisky	Velazquez
Rahall	Skeen	Visclosky
Ramstad	Skelton	Vitter
Rangel	Slaughter	Walden
Regula	Smith (MI)	Walsh
Reyes	Smith (NJ)	Wamp
Reynolds	Smith (TX)	Waters
Riley	Snyder	Watkins
Rivers	Souder	Watt (NC)
Rodriguez	Spence	Weiner
Roemer	Spratt	Weldon (FL)
Rogan	Stabenow	Weldon (PA)
Rogers	Stark	Weller
Ros-Lehtinen	Stenholm	Wexler
Rothman	Strickland	Weygand
Roukema	Stupak	Whitfield
Roybal-Allard	Sununu	Wicker
Ryun (KS)	Sweeney	Wilson
Sabo	Tancredo	Wise
Sanders	Tauscher	Wolf
Sandlin	Tauzin	Woolsey
Sawyer	Terry	Wu
Saxton	Thomas	Wynn
Scarborough	Thompson (CA)	Young (FL)
Schakowsky	Thompson (MS)	
Scott	Thornberry	

NOT VOTING—52

Becerra	Hilleary	Myrick
Burr	Hinojosa	Norwood
Camp	Houghton	Owens
Campbell	Hulshof	Payne
Chambliss	Isakson	Pryce (OH)
Chenoweth-Hage	Kilpatrick	Rush
Collins	Klink	Sanchez
Cook	LaTourette	Shays
Coyne	Lazio	Smith (WA)
Davis (VA)	Lee	Talent
DeMint	Lewis (CA)	Tanner
Ewing	Linder	Taylor (MS)
Fattah	Lipinski	Taylor (NC)
Forbes	Maloney (CT)	Vento
Fossella	McCollum	Waxman
Gilchrest	McIntosh	Young (AK)
Graham	McNulty	
Hansen	Moakley	

2120

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Chairman, during rollcall vote No. 378 on July 10, 2000, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. KILPATRICK. Mr. Chairman, due to official business in my district, I was unable to record my vote on the following amendments to H.R. 4461, the Agriculture appropriations bill for fiscal year 2001, on which rollcalls were ordered. On the amendment offered by Mr. COBURN (rollcall No. 373), I would have voted "no;" on the amendment offered by Mr. ROYCE (rollcall No. 374), I would have voted "no;" on the amendment offered by Mr. CROWLEY (rollcall No. 375), I would have voted "aye;" on the amendment offered by Mr. CHABOT (rollcall No. 376), I would have voted "no;" on the amendment offered by Mr. COBURN (rollcall No. 377), I would have voted "aye;" and on the amendment offered by Mr. SANFORD (rollcall No. 378), I would have voted "no."

Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to reluctantly support H.R. 4461, the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill for Fiscal Year 2001. I wish to commend Chairman YOUNG, Ranking Member OBEY, Subcommittee Chairman SKEEN and Sub-

committee Ranking Member KAPTUR for their hard work during this stressful time for American agriculture and our hard-working farmers.

I support this legislation with the understanding that while this bill falls short in many areas, Congress needs to move now to stem the flood of debt, drought and despair in rural America.

Indeed, this bill has some acceptable provisions. To address the credit gap that farmers face, this bill appropriates the Administration's request of \$130 million to support \$4.6 billion in loans to farmers and ranchers through the Agricultural Credit Insurance Fund. There is increased funding for Farm Operating Loans and Farm Ownership Loans. In addition, there is \$150 million for emergency disaster loans and \$100 million for boll weevil eradication loans. As an increasing number of farmers sell their commodities at prices below their cost of production, the availability of this credit could be the difference in keeping many of the farmers in my District on the land.

This bill appropriates adequate stop-gap funding for Farm Service Agency salaries and expenses which will allow farmers to continue to get the services they need at their local FSA offices.

This Agriculture Appropriations bill increases funding for the Agricultural Research Service by \$20 million over last year. This will allow for improved research for many producers. The bill appropriates \$946 million for Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service to advance research, extension and education in the food and agricultural sciences. Soil and water conservation spending is increased by \$16 million over last year's level. Rural Housing programs will increase by \$89 million.

Many of these programs deserve more, but producers and other recipients need these programs now. I will continue to fight for agriculture's fair share.

Mr. Chairman, there are great deficiencies in this bill. The bill does not contain funding for important peanut research projects at the Dawson, Georgia ARS facility. A project to Develop, Evaluate and Transfer Technology to Improve the Efficiency and Quality in Peanuts and a project to Develop Technology/Methodology for Peanut Quality Management During Production and Post Harvest Processing are left unfunded in this bill. I will do everything I can to see that these important projects are funded in the final Conference Report.

The bill provides \$35.2 billion for domestic nutrition programs—including food stamps, the school lunch and breakfast programs, and the Special Supplemental Food Program for Woman, Infants, and Children. This is an increase of \$186 million over last year's level, but \$1 billion less than the Administration requested. During this time of plenty in much of America we can do better.

I am going to vote for this bill even though it fails to address fundamental problems in providing the economic safety net farmers need to keep growing the highest quality, safest and cheapest food in the world.

Mr. Chairman, I am going to vote for this bill because it keeps the American food ship afloat. But it remains for this House of Representatives to complete its work to knit a safety net for America's farmers who are drowning in debt, disaster and depressed prices. This vote is just the first step.

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the point of order offered by my friend, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DIAZ-

BALART) to strike Title VIII from H.R. 4461, the Department of Agriculture Appropriations Act. As my colleagues know, Title VIII would amend current law to ease economic sanctions against five nations: Cuba, Iran, Sudan, Libya, and North Korea. While much of the news reports and talk over the last few weeks have focused on the pros and cons of the compromise reached between members of both sides of the aisle on how the provision will affect the communist nation of Cuba, I mainly oppose this provision because of how it deals with—or shall I say ignores—the tragic situation that currently grips Sudan.

As a member of the International Relations Committee and especially the Subcommittee on Africa and the Subcommittee on International Operations and Human Rights, I have been following the situation in Sudan with great interest and concern. One of the reasons I chose to be on the Africa Subcommittee was to address the conflict in Sudan and the practice of slavery that still takes place in this modern day and age. This is a country, which has the longest running civil war in the world, and has been witness to over 1.9 million deaths over the past 15 years. More people have died in Sudan than in Kosovo, Bosnia, Afghanistan, Chechnya, Somalia and Algeria combined, yet few people still seem to take notice. At a time when we are sending military troops and proposing emergency supplemental appropriations for the situation in Kosovo, little is being done to counter these grievous human rights abuses that have been taking place for over a decade. It is time for the United States to take notice of the tragedy in Sudan, and for us to lend assistance to the Southern Sudanese, a people who are being butchered and enslaved by their own corrupt government.

But repealing economic sanctions on Sudan will, without a shadow of a doubt, aid the government of the Sudan, the National Islamic Front in Khartoum, which has perpetuated the deplorable human rights abuses.

I urge my colleagues to reexamine the proposed compromise—exempt Sudan from the provision so that we can all work toward meaningful change in this turbulent region of Africa.

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. TANCREDO) having assumed the chair, Mr. NUSSLE, Chairman of the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4461) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

REPORT ON H.R. 4811, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT FINANCING AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2001

Mr. CALLAHAN, from the Committee on Appropriations, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 106-720) on

the bill (H.R. 4811) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes, which was referred to the Union Calendar and ordered to be printed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 1, rule XXI, all points of order are reserved on the bill.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. WATKINS. Mr. Speaker, I was delayed on the first two votes this evening because of plane delay due to inclement weather in Cincinnati.

If I had been here on the Coburn amendment prohibiting the development or approval of any drug intended solely for the chemical inducement of abortion, I would have voted "yes."

On the Royce amendment, to reduce the total fiscal year 2001 agriculture appropriations by 1 percent, I would have voted "no."

CORRECTION TO CONGRESSIONAL RECORD OF JUNE 21, 2000, ROLL-CALL VOTE NUMBER 305

Pursuant to the order of the House of June 26, 2000, the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, of June 21, 2000, was ordered corrected to correctly reflect that Representative ROYBAL-ALLARD did not vote on rollcall number 305 (H.R. 4635/ on agreeing to the Collins of Georgia amendment). The electronic voting system had incorrectly attributed an "aye" vote to Representative ROYBAL-ALLARD.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

MARRIAGE TAX PENALTY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. WELLER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, many of us over the last several years have asked a very basic and fundamental question, and this question is going to be answered again this week, and that is: Is it right, is it fair that under our Tax Code 25 million married working couples pay on average \$1400 more in higher taxes just because they are married?

Is it right, is it fair that two people who joined together in holy matrimony, who both happen to work, are forced to pay higher taxes if they choose to get married? Today, the only way to avoid the marriage tax penalty if both the husband and wife work in the workforce is either choose not to get married or to get divorced. That is just wrong, that 25 million married

working couples, 50 million Americans, pay higher taxes just because they are married. It is wrong, I believe, and I know many in this House do believe that it is wrong, that we punish society's most basic institution, marriage, with higher taxes. That is just unfair.

Let me introduce to my colleagues Shad and Michelle Hallihan, two public school teachers, from Joliet, Illinois. Shad and Michelle chose to get married a couple of years ago. They are both in the workforce. They just had a child this past year, a new baby. They pay the average marriage tax penalty of \$1400. They knew that going into getting married, that they were going to pay more in taxes, but they chose to still get married.

I believe it is wrong. They pay \$1400 more in higher taxes. In Joliet, Illinois, which is a south suburban community southwest of Chicago, \$1400 for Shad and Michelle Hallihan, the average marriage tax penalty, is one year's tuition at Joliet Junior College, our local community college. It is 3 months of day care for their child. It is just wrong they have to pay more in taxes just because they are married.

Now, the marriage tax penalty comes into play when two people marry and they are both in the workforce and have two incomes, because under our Tax Code they file jointly, which means they combine their incomes. So in the case of Shad and Michelle, had they chose to stay single and just live together, they would each file as singles and they would each pay in the 15 percent tax bracket. But because they chose to get married, their combined income pushes them into the 28 percent tax bracket, so they get stuck with a higher tax bill just because they chose to get married.

Now, we believe in this House, and it is clearly one of the top agenda items for House Republicans, that we should bring about some tax fairness by eliminating the marriage tax penalty. I am proud that earlier this year every House Republican, and 48 Democrats who broke with their leadership, voted to wipe out the marriage tax penalty for 25 million married working couples. Unfortunately, Senator DASCHLE and the Senate Democrats used parliamentary procedures to block action on that legislation, and we have now had to go through the budget process, or so-called reconciliation, which is a word few people know the meaning of, but it allows us to bring up a bill with a simple majority vote.

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With that ability, this week both the House and Senate are going to be voting on legislation which will wipe out the marriage tax penalty for 25 million married working couples.

Now, some on the other side and AL GORE and a few others say, Well, let's give just a little bit of marriage tax relief so we can say we are for it. AL GORE says we should only give marriage tax relief to those who do not

itemize their taxes, those who use the standard deduction.

Well, we want to help those who do itemize, as well as those who do not itemize. If you think about it, most middle-class families, most middle-class couples, itemize their taxes because they are homeowners. Think about that. If you are a homeowner, those who oppose the bill we are going to be passing this week, because they do not want to help homeowners and they do not want to help those who itemize taxes, because they say they are rich, only rich people own homes today, according to AL GORE and other people.

Well, the bottom line is, the only way we can help Shad and Michelle Hallihan is if we pass the legislation we are going to pass this week, legislation that doubles the standard deduction for joint filers to twice that of singles, so we wipe out the marriage tax penalty for those who do not itemize, and then for those who do itemize, such as homeowners, or those who take the charitable deduction because they give to their institutions of faith or charity, we also widen the 15 percent bracket to twice that for joint filers to twice that of singles. That will eliminate essentially the marriage tax penalty for Shad and Michelle Hallihan.

Think about it. If we eliminate the marriage tax penalty, which we are going to vote this week to do, for 25 million married working couples, 50 million Americans, people like Shad and Michelle will have that extra \$1,400 to take care of their child. That is 3 months of daycare. It is a year's tuition at Joliet Junior College if they want to continue to improve their education.

I want to extend an invitation to my friends on the Democratic side to join with us. Let us eliminate the marriage tax penalty this week.

AGRICULTURAL APPROPRIATIONS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TANCREDO). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. MINGE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MINGE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to discuss for a few moments the legislation which we have been debating today and will take up again tomorrow in the U.S. House of Representatives. This is the agricultural appropriations bill.

I think many of us have rejoiced in the robust economy we have had here in the United States, but the sad fact is that farmers in America are not sharing in this robust economy. Instead, they are facing unprecedented low prices if you adjust for inflation. They are also looking at higher interest costs and increased fuel costs. This is a toxic cocktail that is going to take its toll on America's farmers as the year wears out.

So as we look at the agricultural appropriations bill, the question is, are

we treating the farm sector of our economy fairly? I think in this regard it is important to first note that the appropriations subcommittee is constrained by the budget.

I happen to serve on the Committee on the Budget. I was very disappointed with the unfair treatment that America's farmers received from the Republican budget. I was constrained to vote against it, and I hope that as this appropriations bill moves to the Senate and comes back for consideration, that we can rectify some of its shortcomings. I would just like to point out a few.

First, and perhaps most importantly, we have failed to target the billions of dollars of agricultural assistance that is being spent in the U.S. Treasury. Instead, this money is going out the back-door, billions and billions these months; and it is going largely for the benefit of land ownership. It is not being targeted to assist those operating farmers who, indeed, are suffering from low prices.

Mr. Speaker, we are not targeting this money. We ought to be targeting the money. We ought to have programs that focus on the safety net concept, dealing with prices that farmers are receiving, not simply spending billions willy-nilly. We ought to have programs that recognize effective caps, but instead we have some that are receiving hundreds and hundreds of thousands of dollars and others scarcely enough to enable them to stay in their farming occupation.

A second problem is that the farm programs are largely administered by the Farm Service Agency. That agency, unfortunately, has many new programs thrust upon it, complicated changes in the programs it administers; and it has an inadequate staff. This is a dangerous recipe for disappointment, frustration and resignation ultimately by key employees. We ought to be providing the Farm Service Agency with the resources it needs, the staff that it needs to carry out its mission.

Third, the farm programs are also implemented, especially in the conservation area, by the Natural Resources and Conservation Service. The service itself is not adequately compensated. Furthermore, the conservation programs themselves are shortchanged.

Fourth, we have a dramatic limit on agricultural research, dramatically less than requested by the President.

Fifth, we have a dramatic limit on rural development, and, again, dramatically less than requested by the President.

Sixth, we have inadequate funding for the Packers and Stockyards Administration, or GIPSA. This is the agency in the Department of Agriculture that is charged with making sure that in the livestock sector we do not have unfair trade practices that undermine the farmer's ability to receive a fair price for the livestock that he or she is mar-

keting. It is absolutely necessary that if we are going to fulfill the mission of the Packers and Stockyards Act, that GIPSA be adequately financed. It is shortchanged.

Similarly, the Office of General Counsel within the Secretary's office is shortchanged. We cannot expect these agencies of the Federal Government to perform their mission if they do not have an adequate staff of attorneys and economists.

Finally, the promise of trade has been held out to America's farmers as really the hope that they have for improved prices. But trade cannot be the cornerstone of our agricultural policy. It has to be one part.

We have talked about trade with Cuba today. Unfortunately, trade with Cuba is an illusion. It is not in the agriculture appropriations bill, and I fear it will not be when it comes back.

To be sure, we need to do the very best we can in this appropriations bill, but we have got to do more.

MISSILE DEFENSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. WELDON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WELDON. Mr. Speaker, this past weekend we had one in a series of tests of our national missile defense program, which is currently under development, and supported both by the White House and by overwhelming support in both the House and the Senate. Unfortunately, this test was not a success, and there are those who are using this test to criticize the overall program and to say that technologically we are not prepared to move forward with missile defense.

I want to take a few moments to clarify what did happen and to clarify for the record what occurred in that test, and am offering to Members this week to have a full briefing, both classified and unclassified, on the details of the test that occurred this past weekend.

First of all, Mr. Speaker, the hit-to-kill technology that is fundamental to missile defense was not tested. It was not tested because we could not get the separation stage away from the main rocket.

Now, that is not new technology. That is not missile defense technology. In fact, Wernher von Braun and other scientists solved this problem 40 years ago. It is a technology necessary to launch every communications satellite into outer space. It is a technology utilized for every space mission that we get involved with. It is not a technology specific to missile defense. However, it failed. No one expected it to fail, just as when we launch communications satellites, we do not expect the separation technology to fail to allow that communications satellite to be put into an orbit.

Unfortunately, there are those who are misinformed; and there are those

who are informed but want to mischaracterize what occurred as to say that this test was an indication that we are not ready to move forward with missile defense. Nothing could be further from the truth.

In fact, Mr. Speaker, I have come out and strongly criticized the corporation who was responsible for the separation stage technology and have put them on notice that if we do not solve this quality-control issue, there will be legislation to punitively punish them for other failures that may occur in the future.

But make no mistake about it, this test was not a failure of missile defense capability. We never got to that stage. The kill vehicle never had the opportunity to go after the target. It never had the opportunity to employ the sensors that are needed in missile defense to kill the incoming missile on its way into an American city.

We will do a full analysis and the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization and the Department of Defense will provide the full reports to us. But this week I will arrange, as the chairman of the Committee on Armed Services Subcommittee on Research and Development, for any colleague in this Chamber that wants, a full briefing on the test, exactly what occurred and why the test failed.

But, again, I would repeat, it was not a failure of missile defense, any more than a rocket trying to launch a satellite into space and failing would cause us to stop all future communication satellite launches. It is simply a problem that we need to get corrected, and we will get corrected.

As Jack Gantzler, our Deputy Secretary of Defense, and General Kadish, our three-star general in charge of missile defense, stated in Congressional hearings 2 and 3 weeks ago, they are totally confident in our technology; and we will move forward. But there are those who want to distort the facts. The Union of Unconcerned Scientists is one of them. Those members of the Flat Earth Society that would like to mischaracterize what occurred are not going to be allowed to get away with that, and I would encourage our colleagues to make sure they avail themselves of all the factual information surrounding that test.

NUCLEAR ENERGY CRISIS LOOMING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. STRICKLAND) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. STRICKLAND. Mr. Speaker, we all know what happens when we are too reliant on foreign sources for oil; and, as a result, in my district in southern Ohio and across this country, consumers are paying outrageous prices for a gallon of gasoline.

But there is another energy crisis looming that many of us seem not to be aware of. I think it is important for

Members of this House and for citizens of this country to be aware of the fact that 23 percent of our Nation's electricity is generated by the use of nuclear power plants, and almost all of that fuel comes from a domestic source.

Unfortunately, in July of 1998, the United States Enrichment Corporation, which is the public corporation that was responsible for operating the two existing uranium enrichment facilities in this country, that corporation was privatized. Since privatization, disasters have occurred.

The mining industry is on the verge of collapse. The conversion industry, there is only one conversion plant in this country, and that is in Metropolis, Illinois. It is on the verge of collapse. And just 2 weeks ago the United States Enrichment Corporation, the privatized corporation, announced that they were closing one of our two enrichment facilities, the one in my district in Piketon, Ohio; and within a year some 1,800 to 2,000 workers will lose their jobs.

How did this disaster happen? Why are we on the verge of having to depend upon foreign sources for perhaps 20 percent of our Nation's electricity?

I have in my hand a waiver letter that was written by the chairman of the Public Board, Mr. William Rainer; and in this letter he is addressing the CEO of the Public Board, who is now the CEO of the private corporation.

Mr. Rainer says to Mr. Timbers in this letter: "As employees of a wholly owned government corporation, you may not participate personally or substantially in any particular matter that would have a direct and predictable effect on your financial interests or those of others, such as spouse."

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However, Mr. Rainer granted Mr. Timbers this waiver, giving him permission to advise the board on whether or not USEC should be privatized, how it should be privatized, and the selection of the individuals to serve on the new privatized board. What is the result? Mr. Timbers went from making \$350,000 as a government employee and after the company was privatized, Mr. Timbers made \$2.48 million.

Mr. Speaker, if that is not substantive, I do not know what is. This is a sham and a farce, and this administration and this Congress have an obligation to look into these matters. If someone who worked for the government made \$350,000, and then was given the privilege of making decisions which had the benefit of enabling him to enrich himself and then a year-and-a-half later ends up with a salary of \$2.48 million, then there is no sense in us having any prohibition on these kinds of government employees being involved in matters that could enrich themselves.

Mr. Speaker, I am asking this House, I am asking this administration to come to their senses and to understand

that we are facing a looming crisis in this country. If this rogue corporation continues without any prohibition, we find ourselves perhaps facing the demise of the enrichment industry in this country and becoming completely dependent on foreign sources for the essential fuel that is necessary to power our nuclear plants which provide some 23 percent of all of the electricity in this country.

Mr. Speaker, this is a serious matter. I am appreciative of the time I have had to share this with my colleagues and with the country. I will include for the RECORD at this time the letter I referred to earlier in my remarks.

USEC,

Bethesda, MD, September 26, 1995.

Mr. WILLIAM H. TIMBERS, Jr.,
President and Chief Executive Officer, United States Enrichment Corporation, Bethesda, MD.

DEAR MR. TIMBERS: Under 18 U.S.C. §208(a), USEC employees, as employees of a wholly owned Government corporation, may not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter that would have a direct and predictable effect on their financial interests or those of certain others, such as their spouses. Nevertheless, as Chairman of the Corporation's Board of Directors, under 18 U.S.C. §208(b)(1) I may waive the prohibition of 18 U.S.C. §208(a) where I determine that the employee's financial interest in the matter "is not so substantial as to be deemed likely to affect the integrity of the services which the Government may expect" from the employee.

On September 25, 1995, you provided me with a request for a waiver under section 208(b)(1) to allow you to participate in matters directed toward implementation of the "Plan for the Privatization of the United States Enrichment Corporation" (Plan), presented to the President of the United States on June 30, 1995, and effectuation of the Corporation's privatization. Your request stated that such matters would include, but not be limited to, providing advice and recommendations to the Corporation's Board of Directors on the following matters: the method that USEC should utilize in privatizing, e.g., an IPO or an M&A transaction, the timing of a privatization transaction, and whether any such transaction would meet the requirements of section 1502(a) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended; the selection of a M&A buyer and the negotiation of a M&A transaction if a buyer is selected; and the selection of individuals to be appointed to serve on the board of the privatized corporation.

You presently are the President and Chief Executive Officer of USEC. In your position, you are required to implement resolutions adopted and approved by the Board of Directors and to act on directions provided thereby, to abide by the terms of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, and of other laws, as each relates to the Corporation, and to carry out your duties as provided by the Corporation's By-laws. One of the primary responsibilities of the Corporation is to effectuate privatization through implementation of the Plan. In your position as President and CEO, you are responsible for overseeing day-to-day implementation, and ensuring the successful realization, of this project. In carrying out your privatization-related duties, including those matters detailed in your waiver request as outlined above, your financial interests in both your current Federal employment and your future employment will be affected. They will be af-

fected by virtue of the privatization of USEC resulting in the termination of your current Federal employment. Moreover, matters relating to privatization also likely will affect your interests in future employment by structuring the possibilities for your employment with the private successor to USEC. In turn, the financial interests of the privatized entity may be imputed to you under the statute if you have an arrangement regarding future employment therewith. These effects on your current and future employment interests give you a disqualifying financial interest in privatization-related matters undertaken by the Corporation.

Under the terms of section 208(b)(1), disqualifying financial interest may be waived if the "interest is not so substantial as to be deemed likely to affect the integrity of the services which the Government may expect" from the employee. In this instance, the particular matter of privatization of the Corporation is not a project proposed by you or another employee of the Corporation. It is a goal that was placed with the Corporation by Congress. Therefore, working to realize that goal is incumbent upon every employee of the Corporation, although each will be personally affected by the outcome. Without such effort by USEC employees, privatization could not be realized. Given the effect that privatization will have on the financial interests of each of the officers of the Corporation, not just your own, it is not feasible to delegate your participation in privatization-related matters to a subordinate officer qualified to perform such tasks. However, the openness of the privatization process to the scrutiny of the USEC Board of Directors, the U.S. Treasury as the sole shareholder of the Corporation, and officials of the other Federal agencies will provide additional assurance as to the integrity of the services provided by each USEC employee participating in the privatization process.

Given these factors, and the scope of this waiver as delineated herein, I do not find your disqualifying financial interests to be so substantial as to be deemed likely to affect the integrity of your services to the Government.

Pursuant to the foregoing analysis, I hereby grant a waiver of 18 U.S.C. §208(a) with regard to your participation in matters that would affect your financial interests, and those imputed to you, as previously described in this memorandum. Those financial interests, in light of the requirements imposed upon the Corporation by the Act and the Plan, are not so substantial as to be deemed likely to affect the integrity of your services in these matters.

The scope of this waiver extends to those matters, within your scope of authority and responsibility as President and Chief Executive Officer of USEC, directed toward implementation of the Plan and effectuation of the privatization. This waiver, however, does not extend to; (i) matters involving the determination of the terms and conditions of the counterpart position in the privatized corporation to that which you currently hold; or (ii) matters involving the determination of whether the person holding such position should be selected as a candidate for the board of directors of the privatized corporation.

As the Corporation's privatization efforts proceed, financial interests that conflict with your required duties, that were not anticipated at the time this waiver was issued, could arise. If at any time you have questions regarding the scope of this waiver, you

should seek guidance from the General Counsel. The USEC General Counsel, on my behalf, has consulted with the Office of Government Ethics on this waiver and will provide them a copy of it.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM J. RAINER,
Chairman, Board of Directors.

SALUTE TO JOHNS HOPKINS HOSPITAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TANCREDO). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Johns Hopkins Hospital located in my district in Baltimore, Maryland for its recently announced number one ranking among the Nation's hospitals.

Treating nearly 600,000 patients per year, Johns Hopkins Medicine has been recognized for more than a century as a leading center for patient care, medical research, and teaching. The institution, which includes a hospital and health system and the School of Medicine, is noted for its excellent faculty and staff covering every aspect of medicine, its two world class medical campuses, and multiple outreach programs for regional, national and international patient activities.

The flagship of this institution, Johns Hopkins Hospital, is a 1,025-bed facility and encompasses renowned centers such as the Brady Urological Institute, the Wilmer Eye Institute, the Johns Hopkins Comprehensive Cancer Center, and the Johns Hopkins Children's Center.

For the 10th straight year, the hospital has placed first on the annual U.S. News and World Report magazine hospital ranking. The rankings are based on three factors: reputation, mortality, and aspects of treatment such as technology and nursing care. Among 17 medical specialties evaluated, Hopkins ranked in the top 10 in 16 of them, including number one in ear, nose, throat, gynecological services, urology, and eye care. Further, 41 Johns Hopkins Hospital doctors were recognized in an American Health Magazine survey as among the best in the United States, more than any other medical center in the Nation.

Most significant to me, however, is Hopkins' commitment to Baltimore and the worldwide community. This institution has a sense of obligation and social responsibility that finds its foundation in instructions by its founder and benefactor. Over a century ago, the Baltimore merchant Johns Hopkins wrote to his trustees, and I quote, "The indigent of this city and its environs, without regard to sex, age or color, shall be received into this hospital."

In recent years, Hopkins has followed this commitment with the incorporation of the historic East Baltimore Community Action Coalition, better known as HEBAC. It is a coalition formed among Baltimore City, the

State of Maryland, Hopkins and the neighborhood to improve housing, attract new business, and offer social services to the 47,500 residents of East Baltimore, 43 percent of whom live in poverty. HEBAC was part of the city's successful bid to become a Federal empowerment zone and secure \$34 million from the Federal Government for physical rehabilitation of the neighborhood.

After more than a year of working closely with the East Baltimore community to identify their health concerns, Johns Hopkins also committed \$4.5 million over a period of 5 years to establish an Urban Health Institute to tackle the vexing health problems that plague the community. The Institute brings together a wide range of Hopkins health experts, community leaders, business leaders, clergy and State and local agencies to forge a partnership that will first identify the most pressing health issues and then develop the best methods, including research, education and community outreach to address these problems.

Health priorities identified by the community that the institute is expected to address include substance abuse, violence, sexually transmitted diseases, HIV/AIDS, cardiovascular disease, pulmonary disease, environmental health, the elderly, and family maternal and child health services.

In my stead as a Member of this body, my focus is to create a livable community in my district of Baltimore as well as throughout the Nation. I believe that all Americans, regardless of race, ethnicity and social economic status, deserve livable communities where they feel safe, where their children can obtain a quality education, and where they have access to quality health care. All must share equitably in this American dream.

Johns Hopkins is truly making an effort to ensure that Baltimoreans and persons around the world are able to realize this dream by providing the kind of patient care that will allow them to live fruitful and productive lives. The hospital's commitment to medical excellence and to serving this community are deserving of recognition; and today, I salute Johns Hopkins Hospital for these efforts.

Congratulations to Johns Hopkins for being named the number one among hospitals and certainly a premier servant to our Nation's patients.

COURAGE OVER CAUTION—WE MUST HAVE PEACE IN THE MID- DLE EAST

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, in less than 48 hours, one of the most historic and, I believe, one of the most important meetings will take place just a few miles away from the Capitol of the United States of America, and that is the gathering of Presi-

dent Clinton, Prime Minister Barak and President Arafat on deliberating on peace in the Mideast.

Let me salute all three of these gentlemen and particularly let me applaud the leadership of President William Jefferson Clinton. Many might offer to say that there is nothing else that he could do. Why should he not hold this summit? It is a win-win situation for him in the short time that he has to lead this Nation.

Mr. Speaker, peace is never easy. I think it is important to realize the leap of faith that is being taken by all three of these heads of nations. Camp David will be a very serious place; and, for many Americans, I believe it is important to focus our attention, our hearts and our minds on an effort to bring about peace to a region that has had 52 years of bloody conflicts. For more than half a century, there has been no peace in the Middle East.

I want to applaud the Prime Minister of Israel who realizes that he is on very dangerous ground. Already, three of the six of his coalition members have broken away and resigned because of its efforts to seek peace. Many have said he is fragilely kept in government, that no one will support him, and that there is no guarantee that he will remain as prime minister or head of government of the country of Israel. But I salute him for his words that he comes here with a profound sense of responsibility and, as well, to acknowledge that he has a mandate from the voters, the citizens of Israel to do all that he can to establish peace, not for those of us who live and those of us who are adults responsible for ourselves, but for the children and for those yet not born.

He is willing to consider giving 90 percent of the West Bank to the Palestinians; he is willing to consider some answer to the problem of Jerusalem running some part thereof. The details are not all present, but he is willing to discuss the status of Jerusalem. He is willing as well to allow a small number of Palestinians, so it has been reported, to return to what is today Israel. Yes, we must answer the question of the Palestinians who continuously view parts of Jerusalem or Jerusalem as having a religious significance to them. Jerusalem has a religious significance to all of us of many faiths from around this world. We must find a way to solve the problem with a respect for all and dignity for all and peace for the world.

Mr. Speaker, I believe it is important that once this peace agreement comes to fruition, that we look at an international peacekeeping contingent, as has been suggested by the Palestinians. Yes, as Secretary Albright has already stated, this is an effort of high stakes. It is an effort that hopefully will avoid the tragedy of death of a young Palestinian mother and child experiencing the wrong turn at the wrong time, and they met their death during some bloody conflict just a few days ago. Apologies were offered by the Government of Israel, but how many more will

die? How many more mothers will lose their lives or babies or elderly? How many more Palestinians or how many more citizens of the State of Israel?

So as has been offered, it is high stakes, but frankly, I believe it is life or death. It is life or death for this world order. It is life or death for those of us who believe that the Mideast offers one of the strongest opportunities for anchoring the understanding of people from different walks of life and religious beliefs.

This is the time now to view this summit with all of the resources that we might offer as the United States of America to bolster the journey and travels of Prime Minister Barak, to acknowledge that he has lost his interior minister who has resigned, and his minister of foreign policy refuses to come. Yes, he is traveling a very difficult journey, but I believe that if the American people can offer to him their applause and congratulations along with our applause and respect for President Arafat, and to say to all three men and all that will be engaged in this discussion for peace, it is now time to select and to choose, Mr. Speaker, courage over caution. We must have peace.

ISSUES OF CONCERN TO COLORADO AND THE NATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. MCINNIS) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, to begin this evening, as my colleagues know, many of us have been delayed due to transportation difficulties with the airlines out there. Some of my constituents were surprised to learn that Congressmen, in fact, also have their bags lost, that Congressmen also are delayed on these flights. So tonight I thought I would show my colleagues a pretty clear demonstration, since they may see it as I speak, of exactly what happens to a Congressman who loses his baggage. If my colleagues will look down, they will see my dress socks. Obviously, the real socks are in the suitcase and somewhere the suitcase is out there in that system.

In all seriousness about that, in the last 8 years, in serving in the United States Congress, I have had very good air service across this country.

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As many of my colleagues know, we are very, very dependent in all walks of life in this country, we are very, very dependent on our service from one State to the next State or across the country.

I am telling the Members, in the last 3 months the air service in this country has deteriorated significantly. I have not, with the major airline that I fly, I have not, to the best of my knowledge, had an on-time arrival in 3

months. That has not happened, that kind of record has not happened in 8 years.

I am not going to speak about transportation this evening any more than I am doing right now other than to point out that this problem is getting worse. Once in a while the airlines can blame it on weather, once in a while the airlines can blame it on mechanics, but the fact is that there is a deterioration of service, and it is incumbent upon the executives of these airlines to fix the problem, because our country is too dependent upon it.

The taxpayers in this country provide a lot of dollars for airports. The passengers in this country provide a lot of dollars in their taxes that are put on there, passenger taxes at airports to help supplement our airline service. We deserve more, in my opinion.

It was with some interest last week that I saw news stories about what I guess they call air rage. There is no place for anyone on an airplane to take out their frustrations, in my opinion, on a stewardess or someone else on the airplane. But I do want Members to know that there should be some understanding of some of the frustration being felt by these passengers across the country.

I was at Denver International Airport today and there was a lady there who had been stuck for 2 days at that airport. So as we talk about airplane rage or some of these other things, remember what is happening to the passengers in this country. We deserve more from some of these airlines. That is not all of the airlines. Obviously, some of them are performing well.

I think it is time we pay very close attention, Mr. Speaker, to those ratings that come out every month or so talking about which of these airlines are having a tough time with service and which of the airlines want to merge, and come to us and ask us for more dollars for airports and things.

I think we have every justification to stand out and say, "Hey, why do you not improve your service? There are a lot of people paying taxes out there for better service."

In Denver, for example, we have one dominant airline. We have some of the highest business rates in the United States. We should expect premium service. I should add again that for many, many years I have received premium service out of Denver, but something has happened in the last 3 months. It is going to damage our economy here before too long.

TOLL ROADS IN THE STATE OF COLORADO

Let me go on. I want to talk about several other things this evening. First, I want to talk about the proposition of toll roads in the State of Colorado. I want to move from there.

I have noticed several editorials in the last few days about estate taxes, actual editorials. In fact, it sounds to me like the Democrats, who have for years and years supported the death tax, and in fact, this year the Clinton

administration in their budget proposes an increase, an increase in the death tax, these editorials sound like they are writing for that portion or that section of the Democratic Party that supports these death taxes. They act as if we owe the government these death taxes.

I am going to talk about the death taxes for a few minutes after I finish talking about the toll roads, and then I will spend a few minutes on social security and talk about the plan that we as Congressmen have for our retirement, although we are also on social security; the plan that Vice President GORE voted for, the plan that Vice President GORE, under his policies, under his procedures, supported.

We will talk a little about social security. We will talk about the problems with social security. We will talk about, look, do we do what the Vice President has proposed, although he has recently changed his mind, and that is kind of, do not touch it? Of course we are afraid to touch it, but if we do not do something about it, that system is going to break. It is going to fall out of the air. The engines are going to start coughing and that plane is going to fall out of the air.

We have to keep social security firm. The way to do it in my opinion is take some bold moves. Frankly, those bold moves have been proposed by George W. Bush, the Governor of the State of Texas. I want to talk about these policies.

I am not here tonight to get into partisan politics, but clearly there is a big distinction when it comes to social security between the Governor of the State of Texas and the Vice President. We have every right to stand on this floor and debate what those differences are.

I would venture to say that by the end of the debate, the majority of my friends on the Democratic side will join us on the Republican side saying, hey, let us take a bold move. Let us do something with social security. Let us save social security.

I would also venture to say that the majority of my colleagues on the Democratic side need to wake up, in my opinion. I do not say that in a derogatory fashion, but be aware, probably, is a better word, be aware of the fact that this death tax is hurting a lot of people in this country. Their policy of the death tax in this country should be changed. We will get into that.

Let us first of all talk about the newest proposition in the State of Colorado by some elitists, in my opinion. That is, gosh, Colorado is a popular spot.

Mr. Speaker, I represent the Third Congressional District of the State of Colorado. That district is one of the largest districts in the United States. It is also the highest district in the United States. Basically, it is all of western Colorado, here to my left.

If we talk about the mountains, and for those not familiar with western and eastern Colorado, the easy way to

think about my district is basically all of the mountains, and then I do go some in eastern Colorado.

The Third Congressional District is geographically larger than the State of Florida. Although there are six congressional districts in Colorado, the Third Congressional District only has a little less than 20 percent of the population. Eighty plus percent of the population lives outside the Third District. But do Members know what? That 80 percent of the population to a large extent enjoys going into the mountains of Colorado.

A lot of us who grew up in Colorado, a lot of us who spent time in Colorado, know what those mountains mean to us. For generation after generation after generation of my families in Colorado, the mountains are what kept them in Colorado. The people of Colorado love their mountains. The people of Colorado are entitled to see their mountains. The people of Colorado are entitled to enjoy those mountains.

But last week we had a new proposal from some bureaucrat, quite frankly, saying, you know, we have too much traffic on I-70. For those who do not know what I-70 is in Colorado, they all know Interstate 70, but where it lies, it virtually cuts the State in half. The mountains go about like this.

What this bureaucrat has come up with is to say, well, let us go ahead because I-70 is so heavily traveled, especially out of the major cities, and we have another interstate called I-25, here, so we have a lot of traffic coming out of these cities, the metropolitan population areas, into the Third Congressional District to enjoy those mountains.

By the way, the highways in the Third Congressional District, they were not paid for by people in the Third Congressional District. Those are taxes to build those highways that were paid for by everybody in the State of Colorado and visitors to the State of Colorado. In fact, our Governor, who personally I have known for a number of years and who I think has done the most outstanding job of a Governor in many, many years, was able to forge through in his first few days and months of office a new program to fund additional taxes to build these highways.

We have grown in popularity. We do have a lot heavier traffic on the I-70 corridor. It used to be when I was in the State House of Representatives the only time we had heavy traffic on I-70 was on Friday afternoon, traffic up to the ski areas, and on Sunday afternoon, traffic back from the ski areas. Now almost every day of the week we have traffic on I-70.

So what happens? We have a highway that is being utilized very heavily, so we are trying to figure out solutions for it. Maybe there are ways, other routes that we can use. What are the solutions?

I could not believe my ears last week. We had a bureaucrat that came out and

said, hey, not for any other congressional district in the State of Colorado, just the congressional district that the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. MCINNIS) represents, let us put a toll booth right on the highway. Let us bring the troll in. We have taxed the people to build the highway, now let us tax them to keep them off the highway.

Most are familiar obviously with toll booths, Mr. Speaker. My guess would be their experience with toll booths has been we set up a toll booth to collect money because it is the truest form of "the user pays." The person who benefits from the highway is the one who travels on the highway and is the one who pays the tolls.

This toll booth being proposed by a bureaucrat is not a toll booth to raise money for construction of highways, it is a toll booth to impose a penalty upon people who want to come visit the Colorado mountains. It is a price to be put on, and if people can meet it, if they are wealthy enough, they get to go to the mountains. If they are a poor working guy out there or gal who does not have that kind of money, they do not get to go to the mountains. It is a new toll. We have a new troll in Colorado.

It is not fair. Fundamentally it is not fair. Let us talk a little about it. What kind of rate do Members think they would have to charge in that toll booth to keep people from visiting their mountains, \$1? We are not going to stop anybody for \$1, by charging a dollar in the toll booth, and the reason is we do not want them to go onto the highways, we want to slow down what we call congestion traffic.

Would it be \$5? That is not going to slow it down. What about \$20? Maybe a little. But \$30 or \$40, yes, we will then begin to slow the traffic down on I-70 going into the Colorado mountains, \$30 or \$40 or \$50 at the toll booth. We will begin to take the congestion off that highway.

Do Members know who they are impacting or where the unfairness of this is? They are not impacting the person who drives the Mercedes, or in fact the person even in my economic bracket. I could afford to pay for it. But the people we are impacting are the people who live out here who work 40, 50, 60 hours a week, can barely get by, and they take their families to Glenwood Springs, Colorado, to the Hot Springs pool for family recreation, or they take them to the Sunlight Ski Area in Glenwood Springs, or to Powderhorn in Grand Junction, or they run them up to Breckenridge when there is a special rate for skiing.

There are a lot of families in Colorado that are not wealthy, Mr. Speaker. There are a lot of families in Colorado where both the man and woman are both working to make ends meet. A lot of those families that are not wealthy, where both parents have to work to make ends meet, enjoy the mountains just like somebody who has a lot of money enjoys the mountains.

It goes the other way, too, by the way. My guess would be, although I have not had a personal conversation with this individual who proposed this, my guess would be that he also wants to collect a toll going the other direction.

So when the people in rural Colorado, and I can tell the Members, a lot of children in rural Colorado have never been in an airplane. They have never been higher than maybe a four- or five-story building. Right now in probably 98, and this is hard to believe, in 98 or 96 percent of the State, maybe, 96 percent of the State of Colorado, there is one escalator, one escalator. So one of the beautiful areas of Colorado, one of the areas of major attractions, is Denver. Denver has the Broncos, it has the Rockies, the Children's Museum, the fish aquarium, it has the hockey team, it has Elitch Gardens, a lot of different things; Denver University. There are lots of things that the people in the mountains like to go to the city.

Now all of a sudden we have somebody out there trying to get momentum claiming that it is good for the environment to go ahead and tax the people that were taxed to build the road, tax them to keep them off the roads. They never even mentioned in this proposal what kind of impact it is going to have on that blue collar worker, that blue collar labor who does not make a lot of money, and 30 or 40 bucks out of their pocket means a lot. It hurts.

If these people really want to cut down on congestion through a toll road, they are not going to do it with \$1, with \$5. They are going to have to do it with \$30, \$40, \$50. All of a sudden we have discovered a troll sitting on the tollgate to my district, to the district that I am privileged to represent. We have made a determination in Colorado that if people want to go see the mountains of Colorado, if they want to enjoy those 14,000 foot majestic peaks, and I have by far more 14,000 foot peaks than other people in the country, I have 54 or so, if people want to go out and enjoy that, they can as long as they are part of the wealthy status, as long as they have the money to pay the toll. When they go up to the troll, if they have 40 or 30 bucks, throw it in the box.

Fortunately, we have a Governor in the State of Colorado who in my opinion is not going to stand for that kind of thing. Fortunately, we have a Governor in the State of Colorado who has stood up and put together a good highway improvement program. He has put those taxpayer dollars into construction.

I think there is some legitimate argument, by the way, for a toll booth if in fact that money is going to improve that road.

I can remember growing up, and my father used to show us all the time, the kids, he and my mom had six kids. My parents now live in Glenwood Springs,

they are great, great wonderful people. I remember when I was young and mom and dad pointed out the Denver Bolder Turnpike, the only toll booth in the State of Colorado.

My dad and my mom always used to tell us, you know what is good about this? They are going to take this down, the government promised us, they are going to take it down the day they pay for the improvements on the Denver Bolder Turnpike.

Do you know what the government did back then? The day that those improvements were paid off, the toll booths came down. Now, that is fair, and people back then accepted the Denver Boulder Turnpike toll booth, because they knew that money was to improve the highway.

It was not put there as a punishment as this is being proposed to do. It was not put there to raise money off the Denver Boulder Turnpike and to transfer to other people programs, it was put there to improve that turnpike. My, my, my how things have changed over time.

Now they want to put a toll booth up there, this recommendation, to penalize you for using the very roads that those taxpayers put in place, to penalize you especially if you are lower middle income or lower income, to penalize you from going up and enjoying the mountains that give you the pride of the State of Colorado.

Colorado is known to my colleagues throughout this floor. You know Colorado. Some of you may know it for the Broncos. Some of you may know it for the Rockies. But, realistically, you know it because of those Rocky Mountains.

We have a fundamental right as citizens of the State of Colorado to enjoy our mountains, without having to pay a toll at a government toll booth to keep congestion off that highway, a toll booth that allows only the wealthy to go by. If you do not have that cash, that \$30, \$40, \$50, and that is exactly what it is going to take to stop that congestion or at least slow it down, then you are out of luck.

It is wrong. And I am not going to drop this issue. I have written Chairman Dan Stuart on their input. I said thank you for the opportunity to comment on the scoping phase of the I-70 environmental impact statement. I am writing to notify your commission and the Federal Highway Administration that I adamantly, adamantly oppose the use of tolls or any other so-called congested pricing levies aimed at discouraging Coloradans from traveling along I-70 in Western Colorado.

Again, how interesting that the only toll booth they are suggesting is right there on the gateway to the Third Congressional District. I have been told by officials that the use of congestion tolls is but one of the many possible remedies being considered. Even so, I strongly urge the traffic planners charged with drafting this EIS to dismiss out of hand the idea of congestion

toll roads based clearly on the lack of merit and the discrimination that it exercises against the people who do not make that kind of money, and they are being kept out of the mountains for which they have a lot of pride.

They are citizens of Colorado or visitors to Colorado. There are a whole range of sound and reasonable solutions I write about in this letter that are available. But erecting a toll gate to and from Western Colorado, erecting a toll gate to get in and out of my congressional district is wrong. It is wrong because it is being put there for a punitive nature to punish people who want to go into the mountains, because some ivy league person has thought gosh how cars are evil. Highways are evil. Congestion is evil. Of course, who likes congestion? We all like to have some great method of transportation that does not have congestion.

For you to go out and penalize us in Western Colorado by putting a toll gate both coming in and out of my district, it is not going to be accepted. Forget it. That is not in the letter, I thought I would just ad-lib a little there. But erecting that kind of gate is unacceptable.

While the use of tolls may be appropriate in certain circumstances, it would be unfair to impose a congestion toll for no reason other than to discourage travel by taxpayers who paid for the roads in the first place. Colorado taxpayers have paid more than their fair share for construction and maintenance of these roads. A new congestion toll without a corresponding improvement in the quality of the interstate would seem punitive.

Well, you get the point. I am not too excited about this proposal. I have not had an opportunity to talk with the particular bureaucrat that is out there proposing it.

But I will tell you before it catches on, before you try and go out there and try and dress it up so it looks real pretty, you better understand and I think strengthen our voice that is going to oppose this.

I want to commend the governor of the State of Colorado, that governor understands that there are lots of approaches that we can use to resolve this problem, that governor understands highways. And I would hope that my message rings throughout the entire bureaucracy including the Federal Highway Administration. Do not put toll booths on this highway simply for the purpose of punishing people who want to go up there, not for construction, but to punish them because they want to visit the Colorado mountains.

DEATH TAXES

Let me move to another subject, death taxes. Colleagues we know what death taxes are. You work all your life. You accumulate. I will give you an example, my wife and I. My wife and I did not start with any money. We just started saving early on. I will tell you we did not have boats or nice cars. I mean we have used cars which were

nice for us, and nothing against somebody who wants to have a boat, I think it is great. In fact, if I had the money, I would buy those, that is extra.

But in our mind, my wife and I in our life, one of our goals was to have something that when we went on, when we passed away and we could pass on to our children so they could have a little head start for their life so maybe they could afford a down payment on a home, so maybe the family ranch that is in my wife's family, that maybe her portion of the ranch could be enjoyed by the next generation following us, that maybe some of the other things that we have worked so hard to accomplish and we have toiled, just like many, many other young couples in our country are doing now, we did that a few years ago.

There are a lot of young people out in the country today, a lot of young people by the way, Democrats, in business. It is not all that bad, business. A lot of small business people, a lot of farmers and ranchers, a lot of young people getting into these professions and they, too, share the goal that my wife and I shared that my mother and father, my wife's mother and father shared and that is, look, we do not want to spoil the generation behind us, but let us do something for the generation, let us try and jump start them, let us give them a little head start.

Now, when you accumulate like that, you do not accumulate taxfree, with the exception of some IRAs, and those are taxed, but basically as my colleagues know, you do not accumulate this property tax free, you pay taxes on it. When you earn it, you are taxed on it, and you take what is left after the taxes and you put it into an account or you make some kind of an investment for the future.

We are not talking here about money that here you earn it, we are not talking about money that goes over here 100 percent, it does not happen. What happens here is the taxman comes in and he cuts his chunk here. He gets his chunk right here. So when it gets over here, your fund for the future has already been taxed.

So you begin to accumulate this property, with the goal, as my wife and I had, that at some point in the future you would be able to pass on in the next generation in our particular case maybe a piece of ground, maybe a business, maybe a portion of a ranch out there in Colorado. I keep referring to Colorado because ranching is an important industry, and the death taxes, Democrats, by the way you ought to pay attention to this, the death taxes have had a significant impact on our ranching community out in Colorado. They have been very punitive, very punishing.

So we get to this point and guess what happens? The government has not had enough. What the government does when you are young, there are teachers and in school they teach you to go out in America and capitalism, go out and

the harder you work, the chances are, the harder you work, the more successes you will have, and that you have an opportunity to accumulate, you can buy your own home in the United States.

In America, you can own a ranch. In America if you work hard enough, you can do things, you can accomplish. Who would ever think that the government that preaches that at our young ages and tells our young people that the opportunities are no greater anywhere in the world but America, who would ever think that very government is flying over you like a vulture on the day you die to come in here and take property that has already been taxed and, in some cases, take out between 50 and 70 percent of that and move it to the government.

Now, what do death taxes do? Let us talk about a couple editorials. I read an editorial over the weekend, maybe it was in the Wall Street Journal or in the Denver Post. Anyway, I read this editorial. I think it was Broder, whatever his name is, the gentleman's name, and he talks about this estate, and he sounds like it is only fair for the government to come out and take money from you upon your death, even though you have already paid taxes on it.

They talk about as if it is a windfall for a family. Take my wife's family, for example, they have been on the same ranch in Colorado since 1850. The writer of this particular article seems to think it is a windfall, if that family is able to pass that ranch on to the next generation, my wife's generation and then the generation after my wife, to that generation as if it is a windfall. Then they always like to jump. Democrats you had 40 years to do something about this death tax.

Some of you have come over on it and I appreciate that. I noticed lately in the last couple of weeks the Democrat leadership, because they have now sensed that their policy of increasing the death tax, which is exactly what the Clinton administration has proposed to do in their budget is not selling well with the American people. The American people are saying, wait a minute, it does not make sense to us. We have already paid taxes. Why should punish us upon our death with another tax?

Some of you sense that. And the leadership over on the Democrat side has sensed that and now they have come up with the bill to help get rid of the death tax. I am glad you have acknowledged that there is a problem. I am glad after time after time after time you fought us on trying to eliminate or at least give some relief under the death tax that your leadership, the Democratic leadership policy has now begun to shift towards our side to say, you know, something maybe it is not fair when somebody dies that the vultures of the government go down and pick apart the property that has already been picked apart with taxes.

Nobody complains about the initial taxation if it is fair. Where the complaint comes in is how much more do you want, how much more do you think you can take out of this family ranch before you make that ranch collapse from an economic point of view?

Let us talk about what happens in an estate tax. Remember even if the wealthy and, oh, do they love that, do the editors and do some of the Democrats opposing this do they love to talk about the wealthy people of this country. This is a tax against the wealthy. In fact, it was designed in part as a punitive tax against the Carnegies and the Rockefellers and the Fords and people like that around the turn of the last century. Do they love to go out after rich people?

They love to create class warfare in this country. Let me tell you what happens even with a rich person in a community. I am going to give you a good example. A small town in Colorado, population maybe 9,000 people. I am not going to identify the person, other than to say let us call the gentleman Joe. Joe and his wife, Mary, these people are my parents' age, so they are in their 70s. They started out in this small town of Colorado.

Joe started out as a bean counter, as a bookkeeper for a construction company. I am telling you these names are made up, but the story is true. Mary was a homemaker, so they both worked real hard, she took care of the kids and Joe worked hard.

From day 1, he worked 6½ days a week. He sacrificed a lot of time away from his kids, and his wife sacrificed a lot of her time to make up for the time he was away from the kids. And over time he moved from being the bookkeeper in the construction company to have an opportunity to buy into it. This is a small town construction company, population 9,000. Then pretty soon he was able to save a little money here, save a little money there, and he was able to invest and start with some of his neighbors a local bank.

What did Joe do with the money? Joe did not take the money that he accumulated in his community, he did not take it out in his backyard and dig a hole and put the money in the ground. He used the money in the community. He bought buildings in the community. He employed people in the community. He gave significant contributions to almost every charity in the community. He helped a school on their funding drives. In other words, he was a strong economic factor. I should speak about both of them, both of them contributed to this in their own way. That couple was an economic mainstay of this small community in the state of Colorado.

What happens? Unfortunately, Mary passes away. My friend is a good guy, and his wife was very bright. But they did not go out and hire attorneys to try and evade taxes with the government. And so what happened when Mary died, the estate, her share of the estate went

to Joe. Joe decided to liquidate the construction company, sell it, decided to sell the bank.

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He did and he got hit with a capital gains tax. That is fair enough. At that point in time, it was at least 28 percent, at least 28 percent on the sale of it.

Then unfortunately my friend Joe, who was an economic mainstay with his wife in this community, what happened to him is he got terminal cancer. Four, five months later, he passed away. The government then came into this community. They forced that family to liquidate the buildings they had to come up with the money to pay an effective tax on that estate, when one puts in the capital gains, an effective tax of I think around 82 percent of 50 years of hard work in this community, 82 percent when combined with the capital gains. The government came in.

Now, true, they were wealthy. By standards, they were wealthy. They had worked in this community. They earned every darn dime of it through hard work. It did not fall out of the sky for them. The government certainly did not give it to them. They taxed it all along.

What happened as a result of this? So much to the local contributions to the local church. That money now goes to Washington, D.C. Instead of that money being circulated in their own community where it had been circulated for 50 years, it now is going to be transferred to Washington, D.C., because the Federal Government says we are entitled upon one's death to transfer that money from one's local community to our big city. So there goes the local contributions and the charities.

Let me tell my colleagues, the church there, the church that he went to, 80 percent of their budget was donated by this individual. It was a pretty good sized church. It had several hundred members in it; 80 percent of it was funded by that individual.

When that church, when the elders of the church went to speak to the family about continuing these contributions, the family said we do not have the money anymore. The money has been transferred to Washington, D.C. So much for any more jobs being generated by that money. So much for deposits being put into savings accounts and the local banks where local people could then go borrow the money to set out on their dreams or to buy a car or to pay for improvements of their house or maybe to buy a house.

All of these different things, money was sucked out of that community. I remember Ross Perot talking about the sucking sound or something of Mexico. If my colleagues want to see where the real sound is, take a look at where the death tax where it takes that money.

If one lives in Kansas and one dies in Kansas and one is hit with a death tax,

that money does not stay in Kansas. That Federal death tax goes to Washington. If one dies in Florida and one gets hit with the death tax, that money does not stay in one's community in Florida, it goes to Washington. If one dies in California and Washington and Wyoming and Colorado and Utah and Idaho, wherever one dies, one's money does not stay in one's community to continue to circulate in one's community; it is sent to Washington, D.C.

How many of my colleagues out there think that money is being well spent in Washington, and how many of my colleagues out there think one darn dime makes its way back to that little community in Colorado?

These death taxes are fundamentally unfair. They are unjustified. It is perhaps, despite what some of these people are writing in their editorials, it is perhaps the most unjustified tax in our system. How does one justify taxing somebody upon their death simply because they have accumulated property upon which they have already paid taxes, simply upon which they have accumulated property by hard work, by following the American principles of free enterprise, by following the American principles of capitalism, by going out there and following their own dream in America; and when they get to that point in hopes of helping the next generation, they lose it.

Now, let us talk about something else that is impacted by these estate taxes, something that some of us may not even think about. Let us talk about open space.

In Colorado, again, I am awful proud of that State, and I am proud of my district. It is a wonderful, beautiful district. I think it is probably one of the most beautiful. The gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) and I could compete, but by gosh we are both up there in the top. Our open space is what makes it beautiful.

We have tremendous, tremendous land in these States. But do my colleagues know what is happening? Take for example a typical family ranch. Now, some people will tell us, well, one has a large ranch out there and a ranching family, and the estate has a value over the amount of the government decides to tax, I mean the amount that puts it eligible for this death tax. What one ought to do, ranchers, go out and buy life insurance. That is what life insurance is for. If one is prudent and responsible to the next generation, one is going to go out and buy life insurance to save that ranch.

Well, do my colleagues know what, it is pretty obvious to me that people that make that kind of proposal have not ever tried to look very closely at the economics of ranching. One may have some land, but one does not get into ranching for money. One does not make enough money. Most ranchers out there do not make enough money to pay the premiums on the life insurance. So that is not a practical, realistic thing.

Well, what happens is, if one has a ranch, let us say a couple thousand acres, let us say in the Glenwood Springs Valley, so Glenwood Springs, Colorado, so one has high property values or higher property values, and, unfortunately, one and one's wife or one's wife and one pass away, do my colleagues know what happens to that property if one does not have the cash to pay off the government, if one's family does not have the cash to pay it off? I will tell my colleagues what happens. The family has got to sell the ranch.

Where is the value of a ranch in Colorado near Glenwood Springs? Is it in cattle ranching? Is it in sheep ranching? Is it in hay production? No. It is not in that economy. The value of it is one goes into that ranch, and one puts it in little tiny 35-acre parcels. One takes that beautiful open space, and one turns it into a 35-acre multihome, multiwealth subdivision.

So pretty soon these open spaces that one enjoys by the government that stands up here and preaches about the value of open space, and they themselves force one to dissect that land so one can pay them off upon the death of one's parents or upon one's death; one makes arrangements to have it split up like that.

These are some of the unintended consequences that decades of this death tax have had in our country. The time has come, and I can tell my colleagues I stand with a great deal of pride to see the governor of the State of Texas, one of his policies, if he becomes the President, and he has made it clear, and the reason I bring this up is I want to bring the Democrats to action. I want the Democrats to stand up and say me, too, because we want to get rid of this estate tax. The governor of the State of Texas said he is going after that estate tax if he becomes President.

Now, one can contrast that to the policies of the current administration. Remember what the current administration has proposed this year and in their budget. It is in the budget. It is not me just making this up. It is in their budget, the Democrats. It is in their budget. That is to increase the death taxes by \$9.5 billion, not just keep it the same, but increase it.

I am telling my colleagues, fundamentally the American people will not support the proposal to raise the death taxes in this country. Every one of my colleagues on the Democratic side ought to take issue with the President and the Democrats' policy of trying to raise those estate taxes. Those death taxes are not right. They know they are not right. Their gut tells them it is not right to do that. It is not right to go to somebody who is living the American dream who has worked 50 or 60 years, or even if they worked 10 years, to go out and say on the property one has already paid taxes on, we are going to tax it again. We do not care what it does to the next generation. We do not care how the next gen-

eration pays for it. We do not know what kind of dreams have been squashed by the fact that those vultures are flying over one's death bed. The government does not care about what happens to the next generation that one has worked all one's life to provide a little something for. They do not care about whether or not those people get that money. They want that money transferred to Washington, D.C.

Now, tonight I know a lot of us have children who are now young couples. They are just now getting into the work force, couples that are worried about Social Security; couples that are worried about what they can save, and they have their dreams. Oh, to be that age again, to just dream about, oh, when we buy our first home, when we really get to go buy a brand-new car, when we get to have our children and our family, and then we can begin to think about, well, maybe we can put some money aside so they can have a college education, and maybe we can put some money aside so that, if something happens to us, they will be able to carry on the family business or the family ranch, or maybe they will have other money to give them a little head start.

If only they knew, if only these young people in this country knew what this policy, and, frankly, Democrats, they know they supported it, they have increased, they are proposing to increase it this year, they ought to join us. Because if these young people knew how this government operated with this death tax, they would be darn mad about it, very mad, very upset. I do not blame them a bit.

So I am asking my Democratic colleagues, and I am asking them to support a change in the policy of the Clinton-Gore administration, although GORE is very clear about his position on this. Let us do something about those death taxes.

SOCIAL SECURITY

Well, enough with the estate taxes, enough for the toll road in Colorado that I talked to my colleagues about. Now I want to talk about something else. First of all, let me tell my colleagues, if they are age, say, 48, if they are 48 years or older, they do not even have to worry about what I am going to talk about because they are well taken care of.

I can tell my colleagues that the principles of the plan that I am going to talk about have primarily been pushed or advocated by the governor of the State of Texas, George W. Bush. Very clearly one of his principles is the people, currently the older people of our society, 48 and above somewhere in that area, they do not have to worry about it.

What am I talking about? I am talking about Social Security. Social Security. Let us talk about that program a little tonight. First of all, and again, as I said, if one is 48 years old, I am about there, if one is my age or above,

there is plenty of money in Social Security.

On a cash basis, Social Security has a surplus. On an actuarial basis, which means once Social Security pays the obligations that it has made under the benefits of that program, Social Security is bankrupt. But for us to reach that bankrupt status, it is going to take 30 years. So that in my age bracket and above, we will not get to that point probably, or not many of us will get to the point where we really have to worry about the bankruptcy of Social Security. But I think it is incumbent upon those of us who do not have to worry about it for us that we sit down and start doing some planning and worrying about it for the next generation.

For the kids that are, the young men and women the age of my children, they should, and are now paying into the system. They are providing for us. We have an obligation to the young generation. Frankly, that is exactly what the governor of the State of Texas has said, George W. Bush. We have an obligation under his policies to provide some planning so that we do not hand to the next generation a bankrupt Social Security program.

Now, let us talk about the current problem. We will talk about some of the problems that we have in Social Security. But first of all, for any of those who think they can defend the Social Security system and the management of it right now, let me ask them a question, or just think about this for a minute. If one went down to the local convenience store and one bought a lotto ticket, paid 10 bucks, one bought a lotto ticket, and let us say one won the lotto and one won \$10 million, wow, great, \$10 million. Would anybody in these Chambers take one's \$10 million or even \$10,000 of that \$10 million and send it to the Social Security Administration to invest it in the Social Security program for a return on one's dollars?

There is not any one in this Chamber that would even send \$1 to Social Security voluntarily to invest on one's behalf. Why? Because over the last few years I will give one an example, if a young couple today putting into Social Security system, in other words, the young couple the age of my children, they can expect for the dollars that they are, that are taken out of their check and invested in the Social Security program, they can expect a return of 1.23 percent, 1 percent, a little over. Well, 1¼ percent is the kind of return that they can expect with their investment today.

That is assuming that no more benefits are increased. That is assuming that the number going into the system stays the same, 1.23 percent. I would defy anyone on this floor to go out there and show me a savings account anywhere in the country that pays 1.25 percent. Just show me one savings account that only pays that. I mean, even the most conservative savings account

in the country pays 2 or 3 or 4 points above that. It is a lousy return.

It is a system that needs a fix. Let me tell my colleagues, the system is not broke entirely because of incompetence. There are several factors that have contributed to putting Social Security into the problem it is in today. One of them is pretty good news for all of us. That is that, over the years since Social Security was first put into place in about 1935, over the years, the life-span has increased dramatically.

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When Social Security was first put in, they did not expect that kind of jump in the increase in life-span. Unfortunately, as the life-span has increased, the premiums have not increased along with it. So now we have people who we maybe thought were going to be in the system for 10 years who are now in the system for 15 or 20 years. That is a problem.

Number two, the people that have put into the system, because of inflation, medical inflation and increased benefits and so on, the people that are now drawing Social Security, that are currently drawing a check out of Social Security, those people, during their lifetime, will pull out an average of \$118,000 more than they put into the system. So the people today drawing out will pull out an average of \$118,000 more than they put in. A system cannot be run economically when it allows participants to pull out more money than they put into the system. That is another problem that we have.

And finally, let me comment about the workers. This is an interesting statistic. When Social Security was first put into place, we had 42 people working for every person that was retired. The reason I am taking the time to write this is because it is so important. There were 42 people that were working for every person that was retired. Today that number is 3 people working for every person retired. And within the very near future, say 10 or 15 years, we will have 2 people for every person retired. My colleagues, those numbers spell trouble. We need to pay attention to the system. We need to do something to try to change the direction of this ship.

Well, let me tell my colleagues, for government employees, for us in these Chambers, for the Congressmen, we realized that we did not want to totally depend on Social Security for retirement so we developed our own plan here called the Thrift Savings Plan. And it is not just for Congressmen, by the way, it applies to government employees, 2.5 million employees. It is a program of choice. They are not forced into it. It is called the Thrift Savings Plan.

What the government did is they had to take care of these 2.5 million employees, so they allowed them to have a program of choice and every month those employees can take up to 10 percent of their pay and the government

matches the first 5 percent. So they can put in 10 percent and then the government matches the first 5 percent, and they can invest it in one of three different programs.

One is a program which has high risk, but it also has high return. And this is the stock market. I think last year it was 28 percent return or a 20 percent return. Or, by choice, they can take a program that has a lower return but lower risk, or a program that is guaranteed by the government which has the lowest return but also the lowest risk, which by the way still exceeds greatly the 1.23 percent return we get in Social Security.

Now, that all sounds confusing, but suffice it to say the government has a program called the Thrift Savings Plan for 2.5 million employees to provide them with an option in Social Security, providing them with choice in investment. For example, if an individual makes lousy choices, here they only have 10 percent. Only 10 percent. The rest of the retirement there is no choice about where it goes. It is guaranteed payment. So no one can ever lose everything they have. It cannot happen under this system.

Well, what happened. Do my colleagues know who supported that, to my colleagues on the Democratic side? The vice president supported that. In fact, I have a quote somewhere, but the vice president was a cosponsor of the Thrift Savings Plan. He was a cosponsor. So what the Governor of the State of Texas and what many of us have said to do is to apply that somewhat toward Social Security. Let us allow the people, especially the young people in this country, the young people who are just getting started and who want to have more of a choice, a more sophisticated investment return, let us give them a choice.

Let us give them an opportunity not to put all of their Social Security money into a stock market; we are not going to do that, but let us allow them to have choice up to 2 percent. Take 2 percent of their paycheck, 2 percent, and remember for the Federal Government employees are allowed to take 10 percent, but allow people on Social Security under this proposal to take 2 percent and let them invest. Let them try their hand in the market. Historically, no matter what investment we look at, historically every investment out there in the stock market and the bond markets, and here I am talking as a whole, does better than 1.23 percent, which is what Social Security now pays.

Now, why would that program cause the kind of uproar that has been created in the last few months? Is it because the person pushing it the hardest is running for president? That has something to do with it. But what it really is, it frightens the status quo. That is what really is happening. What scares Washington, what makes bureaucrats shiver in their knees, is the fact that someone comes into this town

and has a bold proposal, who wants to move off the status quo and wants to take charge. Someone who has enough guts to stand and say, hey, I am going to lead, I am going to take us into some positive territory, so either move with me or stand aside.

The minute the system, the bureaucracy of the Social Security or any government bureaucracy is challenged, watch out. Because, as my colleagues know, they will turn on you and try to tear you apart from every angle they can. And how interesting it is that that is exactly what is happening with the Governor of the State of Texas and his proposal to fix Social Security. He ought to receive a pat on the back from everybody in this Chamber. We ought to go up and say thanks for being bold enough to propose something with seriousness and be ready to charge forward with a change to Social Security. We should also thank him for being smart enough not to throw it all out; not to put it all at risk; and, most importantly under this proposal, he allows choice.

If a person in Social Security does not want to invest in any of those choices, they do not have to. If a government employee does not want to participate in the Thrift Savings Plan, they do not have to. It is a program of choice and it is a program, which, in my opinion, is the most viable option we have out there today to move Social Security out of the red into the black on an actuarial basis. That is the beauty of this thing.

Now, I know that since that proposal was made, first of all, after the Governor of the State of Texas advocated it, we had a lot of fire come from frankly the administration's policy and the vice president. But then, all of a sudden, the pollsters went out there and they came back with poll results that said the American people wanted to see us shore up Social Security; that the American people were willing to look at choice; the American people are willing to take reasonable, reasonable, risk, well, then all of a sudden the administration starts to change their policy. So now they have come up with a plan. That is good. Let us take these plans, let us put them together and let us save Social Security for the future.

Let me wrap it up. My colleagues have been very patient with me this evening. I appreciate the opportunity to address my colleagues.

I talked about toll roads, toll roads being proposed in the State of Colorado simply to punish people for being on the road. Not to build new highways, but to simply institute what I believe is congestive pricing. There is too much congestion, too much traffic on the road, let us take the people who built the roads with their taxes and let us tax them off the road. It is unacceptable.

Unacceptable as far as I am concerned, especially considering the fact they are putting the toll gate at the entrance of the Third Congressional District of the State of Colorado.

Secondly, I talked about the death taxes and how unfair that tax upon a person's death is. Whether an individual is wealthy or whether they have a ranch or whatever, think about the consequences of penalizing somebody upon their death. It is an unjustified tax. It is a tax we should eliminate. I hope we will not let these editorial writers in some of these papers convince us that it is a good way to attack the rich, that it is a good way to get a vendetta going among people who have taken the American Dream and lived it and accomplished it.

And, finally, as my colleagues know, I just wrapped up on Social Security. Let us take a plan that is a bold plan. Not a risky plan, not a risky plan for this next generation, but let us do something, let us make the next generation have something better than we have. After all, the American Dream is to make sure that the people, the generation and the children beyond us, live a better life than the best life we have ever lived. And we can do it if we just stick together.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. BECERRA (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today and July 11 on account of business in the district.

Mr. McNULTY (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today and the balance of the week on account of family illness.

Mr. SMITH of Washington (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today and the balance of the week on account of personal business.

Mrs. FOWLER (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today on account of travel delays.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. PALLONE) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. MINGE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. STRICKLAND, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. CUMMINGS, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Member (at the request of Mr. WELLER) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. WELLER, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Member (at his own request) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania, for 5 minutes, today.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on House Administration, reported

that that committee had examined and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 4425. An act making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes.

SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The Speaker announced his signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 148. An act to require the Secretary of the Interior to establish a program to provide assistance in the conservation of neotropical migratory birds.

BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on House Administration, reported that that committee did on the following dates present to the President, for his approval, bills of the House of the following titles:

On June 30, 2000:

H.R. 3051. To direct the Secretary of the Interior, the Bureau of Reclamation, to conduct a feasibility study on the Jicarilla Apache Reservation in the State of New Mexico, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4762. To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require 527 organizations to disclose their political activities.

On July 1, 2000:

H.R. 4425. Making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 55 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, July 11, 2000, at 9 a.m., for morning hour debates.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

8437. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Pine Shoot Beetle; Addition to Quarantined Areas [Docket No. 99-101-1] received June 13, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

8438. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Tobacco Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Tobacco Inspection; Subpart B—Regulations [Docket No. TB-99-10] (RIN: 0581-AB65) received June 13, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

8439. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service,

Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Tart Cherries Grown in the States of Michigan, et al.; Authorization of Japan as an Eligible Export Outlet for Diversion and Exemption Purposes [Docket No. FV00-930-4 IFR] received June 2, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

8440. A letter from the transmitting the Department's final rule—Refrigeration Requirements for Shell Eggs [Docket No. PY-99-002] (RIN: 0581-AB60) received June 2, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

8441. A letter from the Undersecretary, Acquisition and Technology, Department of Defense, transmitting a Report on Activities and Programs for Countering Proliferation and NBC Terrorism; to the Committee on Armed Services.

8442. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule—Public Housing Assessment System (PHAS): Technical Correction [Docket No. FR-4497-C-06] (RIN: 2577-AC08) received June 7, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

8443. A letter from the Chairman, Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System, transmitting the Eighty-Sixth Annual Report of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System covering operations during calendar year 1999, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 247; to the Committee on Banking and Financial

8444. A letter from the General Counsel, National Credit Union Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Leasing—received June 9, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

8445. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Office of Student Financial Assistance, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's final rule—Student Assistance General Provisions, Federal Family Education Loan Program, William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program, and State Student Incentive Grant Program—received June 21, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

8446. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Special Education & Rehabilitative Services, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's final rule—Notice of Final Funding Priorities for Fiscal Years 2000-2001 for New Awards for the Alternative Financing Technical Assistance Program, both authorized under Title III of the Assistive Technology Act of 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

8447. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Investigational New Drug Applications; Amendment to Clinical Hold Regulations for Products Intended for Life-Threatening Diseases and Conditions [Docket No. 97N-0030] received June 8, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

8448. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Sterility Requirement for Aqueous-Based Drug Products for Oral Inhalation [Docket No. 96N-0048] (RIN: 0910-AA88) received June 2, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

8449. A letter from the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting a report on the, "Status of the State Small Business Stationary Source Technical

and Environmental Compliance Programs (SBTCPs) for the Reporting Period, January-December 1998"; to the Committee on Commerce.

8450. A letter from the Deputy Division Chief, Competitive Pricing Division, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Access Charge Reform Price Cap Performance Review for Local Exchange Carriers Low-Volume Long Distance Users Federal-State Joint Board On Universal Service [CC Docket No. 96-262, CC Docket No. 99-249, CC Docket No. 96-45] received June 2, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

8451. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting his termination of the national emergency with respect to Taliban, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1622(a); (H. Doc. No. 106-266); to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed.

8452. A letter from the Lieutenant General, Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting the listing of all outstanding Letters of Offer to sell any major defense equipment for \$1 million or more; the listing of all Letters of Offer that were accepted, as of March 31, 2000, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(a); to the Committee on International Relations.

8453. A letter from the Deputy Archivist of the United States, National Archives and Records Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Public Use of NARA Facilities (RIN: 3095-AA06) received June 5, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.

8454. A letter from the Writer/Editor, Office of the Inspector General, National Science Foundation, transmitting the semiannual report on the activities of the Office of Inspector General for the period October 1, 1999 through March 31, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform.

8455. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, National Park Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule—National Park System Units in Alaska; Denali National Park and Preserve, Special Regulations (RIN: 1024-AC58) received June 9, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

8456. A letter from the Management Analyst, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule—Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska, Subparts A, B, C, and D Redefinition to Include Waters Subject to Subsistence Priority; Correction (RIN: 1018-AD68) received June 2, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

8457. A letter from the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Designation the Cook Inlet, Alaska, Stock of Beluga Whale as Depleted Under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) [Docket No. 990922260-0141-02; I.D. 083199E] (RIN: 0648-AM84) received June 2, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

8458. A letter from the Rules Administrator, Bureau of Prisons, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's final rule—Civil Contempt of Court Commitments [BOP-1092-F] (RIN: 1120-AA87) received June 5, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

8459. A letter from the General Counsel, National Tropical Botanical Garden, transmitting the annual audit report of the National Tropical Botanical Garden, Calendar Year 1999, pursuant to 36 U.S.C. 4610; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

8460. A letter from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Special Local Regulations for Marine Events; Maryland Swim for Life, Chester River, Chestertown, MD [CGD05-00-022] (RIN: 2115-AE46) received June 23, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8461. A letter from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—SAFETY ZONE: Arrival of Sailing Vessel AMISTAD, New Haven Harbor, Connecticut [CGD01-00-166] (RIN: 2115-AA97) received June 23, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8462. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting the notification of suspension of preferential treatment for Belarus as a beneficiary developing country under the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP), pursuant to 49 U.S.C. app. 1515a(b); (H. Doc. No. 106-264); to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed.

8463. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting an updated report concerning the emigration laws and policies of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Moldova, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan, pursuant to 19 U.S.C. 2432(b); (H. Doc. No. 106-265); to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska: Committee on Resources. H.R. 1787. A bill to reauthorize the participation of the Bureau of Reclamation in the Deschutes Resources Conservancy, and for other purposes (Rept. 106-712). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska: Committee on Resources. H.R. 4286. A bill to provide for the establishment of the Cahaba River National Wildlife Refuge in Bibb County, Alabama; with an amendment (Rept. 106-713). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska: Committee on Resources. H.R. 4132. A bill to reauthorize grants for water resources research and technology institutes established under the Water Resources Research Act of 1984 (Rept. 106-714). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska: Committee on Resources. H.R. 4442. A bill to establish a commission to promote awareness of the National Wildlife Refuge System among the American public as the System celebrates its centennial anniversary in 2003, and for other purposes (Rept. 106-715). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska: Committee on Resources. House Resolution 415. Resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that there should be established a National Ocean Day to recognize the significant role the ocean plays in the lives of the Nation's people and the important role the Nation's people must play in the continued life of the ocean; with an amendment (Rept. 106-716). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska: Committee on Resources. S. 986. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey the Griffith Project to the Southern Nevada Water Authority (Rept. 106-717). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. HYDE: H.R. 4108. A bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to make grants to improve security at schools, including the placement and use of metal detectors; with an amendment (Rept. 106-718). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. GEKAS: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 4391. A bill to amend title 4 of the United States Code to establish nexus requirements for State and local taxation of mobile telecommunication services; with an amendment (Rept. 106-719). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. CALLAHAN: Committee on Appropriations. H.R. 4811. A bill making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes (Rept. 106-720). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. ARCHER:

H.R. 4810. A bill to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 103(a)(1) of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2001; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CALLAHAN:

H.R. 4811. A bill making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes.

By Mr. ANDREWS:

H.R. 4812. A bill to amend the Electronic Fund Transfer Act to prohibit any operator of an automated teller machine that displays any paid advertising from imposing any fee on a consumer for the use of that machine, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

By Mr. ANDREWS:

H.R. 4813. A bill to amend chapter 89 of title 5, United States Code, to make available to Federal employees the option of obtaining health benefits coverage for dependent parents; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mr. BACHUS (for himself and Mr. DELAHUNT):

H.R. 4814. A bill to make illegal the sale, share or transfer of information acquired on the Internet with a pledge that it would not be released; to the Committee on Commerce.

By Mr. BALDACCI:

H.R. 4815. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to provide assistance in planning, constructing, and operating a regional heritage center in Calais, Maine, to facilitate the management and interpretation of the Saint Croix Island International Historic Site; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. LEVIN:

H.R. 4816. A bill to make technical corrections in United States Customs Service regulations regarding the importation of goods bearing foreign owned trademarks or trade names, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. REYNOLDS:

H.R. 4817. A bill to amend title XVI of the Social Security Act to provide that annu-

ities paid by States to blind veterans shall be disregarded in determining supplemental security income benefits; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin:

H.R. 4818. A bill to promote international monetary stability and to share seigniorage with officially dollarized countries; to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

By Mr. UDALL of New Mexico:

H.R. 4819. A bill to amend the Wildlife Services Program of the Department of Agriculture to emphasize the use of nonlethal methods of predator control for livestock protection and to target assistance under the program to operators of small farms and ranches through grants, training, and research regarding the use of nonlethal methods to predator control; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. HYDE:

H. Con. Res. 369. Concurrent resolution to urge the Nobel Commission to award the Nobel Prize for Peace to His Holiness, Pope John Paul II, for his dedication to fostering peace throughout the world; to the Committee on International Relations.

MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII, memorials were presented and referred as follows:

386. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Louisiana, relative to House Concurrent Resolution No. 42 memorializing the United States Congress to financially assist in the implementation of a dairy waste management program in Louisiana; to the Committee on Agriculture.

387. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Louisiana, relative to House Concurrent Resolution No. 15 memorializing the United States Congress to amend Title X of the United States Code, relating to the compensation of retired military personnel, to permit concurrent receipt of retired military longevity pay and Veterans Administration disability compensation, including dependents allowances; to the Committee on Armed Services.

388. Also, a memorial of the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee, relative to Senate Joint Resolution 71 memorializing the United States Congress to study the need to increase the number and specificity of ethnicity categories used for the reporting of educational data; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

389. Also, a memorial of the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee, relative to Senate Joint Resolution No. 71 memorializing the United States Congress to study the need to increase the number and specificity of ethnicity categories used for the reporting of educational data; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

390. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Louisiana, relative to House Concurrent Resolution No. 4 memorializing Congress to obtain an apology from the government of Japan for crimes against prisoners of war during World War II; to the Committee on International Relations.

391. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Louisiana, relative to House Concurrent Resolution No. 54 memorializing the United States Congress to take appropriate action to eliminate unnecessarily intrusive questions on the long U.S. Census form so as to remove deterrents to a complete and accurate census and to urge and request Louisiana citizens to complete census forms as soon as possible; to the Committee on Government Reform.

392. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Iowa, relative to House Joint

Resolution No. 7 memorializing the U.S. Congress to advise them that the State of Idaho, Governor and Legislature strongly object to President Clinton establishing roadless areas by executive order; to the Committee on Resources.

393. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Iowa, relative to House Joint Memorial No. 6 issuing a strong message to Congress and the President that the people of Idaho must be fully involved in any planning that would affect the economic well being of its citizens and any such actions must be approved by way of vote of the people; to the Committee on Resources.

394. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Washington, relative to Senate Joint Memorial No. 8022 memorializing the Congress to accept the support of the people of the State of Washington for the National World War II Veterans' Memorial, a most well-deserved and worthy project; to the Committee on Resources.

395. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Idaho, relative to House Joint Resolution No. 10 memorializing the Congress to conduct comprehensive hearings on the proposed rules and the Section 303(d) TMDL program; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

396. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Louisiana, relative to House Concurrent Resolution No. 17 memorializing the United States Congress to provide credit towards the nonfederal share in the Water Resources Development Act of 2000, for the cost of any work performed by the nonfederal interests for the interim flood protection that is determined to be compatible and an integral part of the Morganza to the Gulf of Mexico Hurricane Protection Project, and to allow the remaining portion of the nonfederal share to be paid over a period of time not to exceed thirty years; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

397. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Idaho, relative to House Concurrent Resolution No. 46 memorializing the House of Representatives to establish and perpetually maintain and operate an Idaho state veterans cemetery; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

398. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Louisiana, relative to House Concurrent Resolution No. 14 memorializing the United States Congress to correct any disparate tax treatment of independently contracted school bus operators by enacting legislation to cause a return to the pre-1989 policy of treating such operators as hybrid employees; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

399. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Louisiana, relative to House Concurrent Resolution No. 13 memorializing Congress to repeal the two federal Social Security provisions known as the Government Pension Offset and Windfall Elimination Provision, and thereby prevent the reduction of Social Security benefits received by beneficiaries who also receive "uncovered" government retirement benefits earned through work for a state or local government employer; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

400. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Idaho, relative to House Joint Memorial No. 8 petitioning the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress Assembled, and to the Congressional Delegation representing the State of Idaho in the Congress of the United States to quickly harmonize and equalize laboratory testing of potatoes so that there is mutual acceptance of each country's respective test results; jointly to the Committees on Agriculture and Ways and Means.

401. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Iowa, relative to House Joint

Memorial No. 9 memorializing Congress and the Canadian Parliament concerning issues of communication, production data, animal health regulations, and the Pacific Cattle Project; jointly to the Committees on Agriculture and Ways and Means.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 49: Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. MCCOLLUM, Mr. NADLER, and Mr. PAYNE.
 H.R. 107: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.
 H.R. 205: Mr. HALL of Texas.
 H.R. 218: Mr. LOBIONDO and Mr. STENHOLM.
 H.R. 229: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.
 H.R. 460: Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. GIBBONS, and Mr. LATOURETTE.
 H.R. 515: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
 H.R. 531: Mr. HALL of Ohio and Mr. LATOURETTE.
 H.R. 804: Mr. MOLLOHAN.
 H.R. 815: Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin.
 H.R. 828: Mr. OLVER.
 H.R. 864: Mr. EDWARDS.
 H.R. 865: Mr. HUNTER.
 H.R. 894: Mr. ROYCE.
 H.R. 1111: Mr. LUCAS of Kentucky.
 H.R. 1168: Mr. SOUDER.
 H.R. 1217: Ms. SANCHEZ, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, and Mr. MCDERMOTT.
 H.R. 1248: Mr. LUCAS of Kentucky and Mr. BILIRAKIS.
 H.R. 1263: Mrs. FOWLER.
 H.R. 1264: Mrs. FOWLER and Mr. DEMINT.
 H.R. 1285: Mr. OBERSTAR.
 H.R. 1322: Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. RILEY, Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. HOBSON, and Mr. PASCRELL.
 H.R. 1485: Mrs. CUBIN.
 H.R. 1525: Mr. KIND and Mr. GONZALEZ.
 H.R. 1592: Ms. MCKINNEY.
 H.R. 1621: Mr. LUCAS of Kentucky, Mr. COBLE, and Mr. HALL of Ohio.
 H.R. 1871: Mr. PASTOR.
 H.R. 1885: Mr. COBURN and Mr. MCGOVERN.
 H.R. 1926: Mr. ETHERIDGE.
 H.R. 2000: Mr. ROMERO-BARCELO.
 H.R. 2059: Mr. NADLER and Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas.
 H.R. 2420: Mrs. CHENOWETH-HAGE, Ms. GRANGER, Mrs. THURMAN, Mrs. CUBIN, Mr. GOODLATTE, and Mr. HALL of Texas.
 H.R. 2457: Mr. KING, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. COYNE, Mrs. MEEK of Florida, Ms. VELAZQUEZ, Mrs. THURMAN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. CONDIT, Mr. DIXON, Mr. MASCARA, Mr. ALLEN, and Mr. SAWYER.
 H.R. 2546: Mr. FILNER.
 H.R. 2594: Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD.
 H.R. 2631: Mr. BROWN of Ohio and Mr. LUCAS of Kentucky.
 H.R. 2635: Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland and Mr. MCGOVERN.
 H.R. 2741: Mr. ENGEL and Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas.
 H.R. 2750: Mr. WEINER, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. COOK, Ms. MCKINNEY, and Mr. SOUDER.
 H.R. 2814: Mr. ABERCROMBIE and Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD.
 H.R. 2859: Ms. LEE, Mr. TOWNS, and Mr. WEXLER.
 H.R. 2892: Mr. WOLF.
 H.R. 2894: Mrs. MYRICK.
 H.R. 2900: Mr. WEYGAND.
 H.R. 2902: Ms. STABENOW.
 H.R. 2916: Mrs. TAUSCHER, Ms. NORTON, and Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD.
 H.R. 2917: Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD.
 H.R. 3003: Mr. COOK.
 H.R. 3010: Ms. MCKINNEY.
 H.R. 3032: Mr. ACKERMAN and Mr. UNDERWOOD.
 H.R. 3193: Mr. GILMAN, Mr. DINGELL, Mr. STRICKLAND, Mr. WEXLER, Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey, and Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD.

H.R. 3256: Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey.
 H.R. 3433: Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri, Mr. BORSKI, Mrs. MEEK of Florida, Mr. SHAYS, and Mr. GILCHREST.
 H.R. 3463: Ms. RIVERS, Ms. KILPATRICK, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey.
 H.R. 3573: Mr. SHIMKUS.
 H.R. 3580: Mr. MCKEON, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. CANNON, Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, Ms. LEE, Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island, and Mr. TERRY.
 H.R. 3590: Mrs. MYRICK.
 H.R. 3593: Mr. CLEMENT.
 H.R. 3628: Mr. PAYNE, Mr. LAFALCE, Mr. MCKEON, and Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania.
 H.R. 3650: Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD.
 H.R. 3700: Mrs. ROUKEMA, Mr. FOLEY, and Mrs. NAPOLITANO.
 H.R. 3732: Mr. MOORE and Mr. POMEROY.
 H.R. 3766: Mr. DEUTSCH, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Mr. WU, Mr. WATT of North Carolina, and Mr. ETHERIDGE.
 H.R. 3825: Mr. FARR of California.
 H.R. 3826: Mr. ALLEN and Mr. NADLER.
 H.R. 4076: Mr. FLETCHER and Mr. KUYKENDALL.
 H.R. 4143: Mr. PAYNE.
 H.R. 4149: Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts and Mr. MCGOVERN.
 H.R. 4211: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mrs. TAUSCHER, and Mr. SHERMAN.
 H.R. 4215: Mr. THOMAS.
 H.R. 4239: Mr. COYNE, Mr. CROWLEY, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. FORBES, Mr. MEEKS of New York, and Mr. PALLONE.
 H.R. 4260: Mr. ENGLISH and Mr. CLEMENT.
 H.R. 4271: Mr. FLETCHER, Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. OLVER, and Mr. GORDON.
 H.R. 4272: Mr. FLETCHER, Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. OLVER, and Mr. GORDON.
 H.R. 4273: Mr. FLETCHER, Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. OLVER, and Mr. GORDON.
 H.R. 4277: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mrs. MEEK of Florida, Mr. COYNE, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. HOLT, Mr. ROTHMAN, and Mr. SKEEN.
 H.R. 4310: Mr. STRICKLAND.
 H.R. 4330: Mr. QUINN.
 H.R. 4340: Mr. COOK and Mr. POMEROY.
 H.R. 4346: Mr. FILNER, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. CUMMINGS, Ms. LEE, Mr. BALDACCI, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. SANDLIN, Mr. FARR of California, Mr. PASTOR, Ms. CARSON, Ms. PELOSI, and Mr. RUSH.
 H.R. 4357: Mr. BONIOR, Mr. WU, and Mr. WAXMAN.
 H.R. 4375: Mr. NADLER.
 H.R. 4395: Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey and Mr. JEFFERSON.
 H.R. 4434: Mr. SAWYER, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. QUINN, and Mr. MCHUGH.
 H.R. 4453: Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. ALLEN, and Mr. BERMAN.
 H.R. 4479: Ms. MCKINNEY.
 H.R. 4480: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.
 H.R. 4492: Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. ETHERIDGE, Mrs. CAPPS, and Mr. DEFazio.
 H.R. 4536: Ms. CARSON, Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, and Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon.
 H.R. 4547: Mrs. FOWLER, Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, and Mr. CLYBURN.
 H.R. 4548: Mr. THOMAS.
 H.R. 4567: Mr. CROWLEY and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.
 H.R. 4639: Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey.
 H.R. 4644: Mr. TOWNS, Mrs. CLAYTON, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Mrs. MEEK of Florida, Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon, Ms. CARSON, and Mr. MEEKS of New York.
 H.R. 4652: Mrs. EMERSON and Mr. VITTER.
 H.R. 4653: Mr. McNULTY, Mr. MCKEON, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, and Mr. STEARNS.

H.R. 4659: Mrs. THURMAN.
 H.R. 4669: Mr. HANSEN, Mr. HILLEARY, and Mr. SESSIONS.
 H.R. 4677: Mr. TURNER and Mr. BISHOP.
 H.R. 4697: Ms. MCKINNEY, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. HOYER, Mr. SHERMAN, and Mr. MENENDEZ.
 H.R. 4706: Mr. STUPAK and Mr. MCHUGH.
 H.R. 4722: Mr. JONES of North Carolina.
 H.R. 4727: Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. CLYBURN, Ms. MCKINNEY, Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island, and Mr. MASCARA.
 H.R. 4737: Mr. BARR of Georgia, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. STUMP, and Mr. EHRLICH.
 H.R. 4744: Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania, Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin, and Mr. HOEKSTRA.
 H.R. 4750: Mr. FROST, Mr. PASTOR, and Ms. MCKINNEY.
 H.R. 4773: Mr. PALLONE.
 H.R. 4776: Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. RYUN of Kansas, and Mr. MCHUGH.
 H.R. 4793: Mr. ROGERS, Mrs. CLAYTON, Mrs. EMERSON, and Mr. MCHUGH.
 H.R. 4807: Mr. SERRANO, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. McNULTY, Mr. HALL of Texas, and Mr. ABERCROMBIE.
 H.J. Res. 60: Mr. UPTON.
 H.J. Res. 100: Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. EVANS, Mr. MCCOLLUM, and Mr. HINCHEY.
 H.J. Res. 102: Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma, Mr. REYES, and Mr. MILLER of Florida.
 H. Con. Res. 115: Mr. BROWN of Ohio and Mr. BONIOR.
 H. Con. Res. 133: Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon.
 H. Con. Res. 276: Mr. UNDERWOOD and Mr. PHELPS.
 H. Con. Res. 322: Mr. GILMAN.
 H. Con. Res. 327: Mr. BARR of Georgia, Mrs. BIGGERT, Mr. STENHOLM, Mr. TERRY, Mr. FORBES, and Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD.
 H. Con. Res. 340: Mr. DIXON, Mr. HORN, and Ms. STABENOW.
 H. Con. Res. 348: Mr. GILMAN, Mr. SERRANO, and Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas.
 H. Con. Res. 350: Ms. ESHOO.
 H. Con. Res. 351: Mr. EVANS.
 H. Con. Res. 363: Ms. MCKINNEY.
 H. Con. Res. 367: Mr. FROST, Mr. TERRY, Mr. GEJDENSON, Mrs. MORELLA, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, and Mr. EHRLICH.
 H. Res. 187: Mrs. TAUSCHER.
 H. Res. 531: Mr. SALMON and Mr. SHERMAN.

PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 3 of rule XII, petitions and papers were laid on the clerk's desk and referred as follows:

90. The SPEAKER presented a petition of Embassy of the Republic of Macedonia, relative to a Resolution on the Position and Role of the Republic of Macedonia in the Stability Pact for Southeastern Europe; to the Committee on International Relations.

91. Also, a petition of City Council of Detroit, MI, relative to a resolution in support of project D.R.E.A.M.Z.Z.S (Detroit Relief Effort to Aide Mozambique, Zambia, Zimbabwe, and South Africa); to the Committee on International Relations.

92. Also, a petition of the Delegates of Aha Hawai'i OIwi, HI, relative to A proclamation claiming authority to collectively represent the voice of the Hawaiian electorate worldwide, elected in accordance with principles enumerated by the one-man-one-vote rule, and as such, it is a legal and properly constituted elected body of representatives of the native Hawaiian people, both in Hawai'i and throughout the world; further reasserting the right to selfdetermination, incorporating the right to define our relationship with the United States, the State of Hawai'i and all aspects of self-governance; to the Committee on Resources.

93. Also, a petition of the Legislature of Guam, relative to Resolution No. 268 petitioning the Congress of the United States of America not allow the designation of land on Guam as "Critical Habitat"; to the Committee on Resources.

94. Also, a petition of City Council of Dixon, IL, relative to A resolution opposing any congressional action to implement the Advisory Commission on Electronic Commerce's report proposals that would preempt state and local sovereignty, guaranteed by the 10th Amendment of the United States Constitution; supporting simplification of state and local sales taxes, and urges states to move more expeditiously to craft and approve model legislation; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

95. Also, a petition of The People of Chefnak, Alaska, relative to Resolution H.R. 701 petitioning the Congress to vote on and pass the Conservation and Reinvestment Act; jointly to the Committees on Resources, Agriculture, and the Budget.

96. Also, a petition of Lan-Oak Park District Board of Commissioners, Lansing, Illinois, relative to A resolution urging Congress to pass legislation to provide full and permanent funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund and to pass HR 701/S 2123, the Conservation and Reinvestment Act (CARA) during its session in 2000; jointly to the Committees on Resources, Agriculture, and the Budget.

97. Also, a petition of City Council of Trenton, MI, relative to Resolution 2000-19 petitioning the 106th Congress to support the Conservation and Reinvestment Act by advancing CARA H.R. 701; jointly to the Committees on Resources, Agriculture, and the Budget.

98. Also, a petition of Legislature of Guam, relative to Resolution No. 268 petitioning the United States Congress to allow all excess federal lands returned to the Government of Guam to be disposed of as the local government determines, including but not limited to the return of the land to the original landowners and their heirs when possible; jointly to the Committees on the Judiciary, Resources, and Armed Services.

AMENDMENTS

Under clause 8 of rule XVIII, proposed amendments were submitted as follows:

H.R. 4461

OFFERED BY: MR. RANGEL OF NEW YORK

AMENDMENT No. 75: At the end of the bill, insert after the last section, preceding the short title (page 96, after line 4), the following new title:

TITLE IX—ADDITIONAL GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 901. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used—

(1) to implement section 620(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2370(a));

(2) to exercise the authorities conferred upon the President by section 5(b) of the Trading With the Enemy Act, which were

being exercised with respect to Cuba on July 1, 1977, as a result of a national emergency declared by the President before that date, and are being exercised on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act, and any regulations in effect on the day before such date of enactment pursuant to the exercise of such authorities;

(3) to implement any prohibition on exports to Cuba that is in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act under the Export Administration Act of 1979;

(4) to implement the Cuban Democracy Act of 1992, other than section 1705(f) of that Act (relating to direct mail service to Cuba);

(5) to implement the Cuban Liberty and Democratic Solidarity (LIBERTAD) Act of 1996, or the amendments made by that Act;

(6) to implement subparagraph (A) of section 901(j)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to denial of foreign tax credit, etc., with respect to certain foreign countries) with respect to Cuba;

(7) to implement section 902(c) of the Food Security Act of 1985;

(8) to implement General Note 3(b) of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States with respect to Cuba; or

(9) to regulate or prohibit travel to and from Cuba by individuals who are citizens or residents of the United States, or any transactions ordinarily incident to such travel, if such travel would be lawful in the United States.

H.R. 4461

OFFERED BY: MS. WATERS

AMENDMENT No. 76: Page 96, after line 4, insert the following new section:

TITLE IX—ADDITIONAL GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. . The amounts otherwise provided in this Act are revised by reducing the amount made available under the heading Commodity Credit Corporation Fund—Reimbursement for Net Realized Losses by \$500,000, and increasing the amount made available under the heading Farm Service Agency—Salaries and Expenses by \$500,000, which shall be available to employ additional contractors for the Judge Adjudication Mediation Service for the resolution of outstanding claims in the case Pickford v. Glickman.

H.R. 4461

OFFERED BY: MS. WATERS

AMENDMENT No. 77: Page 96, after line 4, insert the following new section:

TITLE IX—ADDITIONAL GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. . (a) The amounts otherwise provided in this Act are revised by reducing the amount made available under the heading Commodity Credit Corporation Fund—Reimbursement for Net Realized Losses by \$1,000,000;

(b) There is hereby appropriated \$1,000,000 for the payments of interest, which shall accrue at a rate of 20 percent per month, to any person who is a member of the plaintiff class in the case Pickford v. Glickman and to whom a payment pursuant to the consent decree entered in the case is more than 60 days in arrears.

H.R. 4461

OFFERED BY: MS. WATERS

AMENDMENT No. 78: Page 96, after line 4, insert the following new section:

SEC. . Within available funds, the Secretary of Agriculture is urged to establish the position of Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Civil Rights, and all funds that would otherwise be expended for or provided to, and all duties and authorities of, the Special Assistant to the Secretary for Civil Rights shall be expended for or provided to, or transferred to, the Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Civil Rights.

H.R. 4461

OFFERED BY: MS. WATERS

AMENDMENT No. 79: Page 96, after line 4, insert the following new section:

SEC. . There is hereby established the position of Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Civil Rights, and all funds that would otherwise be expended for or provided to, and all duties and authorities of, the Special Assistant to the Secretary for Civil Rights shall be expended for or provided to, or transferred to, the Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Civil Rights.

H.R. 4811

OFFERED BY: MR. ROEMER

AMENDMENT No. 1: In title II of the bill under the heading "BILATERAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE—FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT—DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE", after the first dollar amount insert "(increased by \$15,000,000)".

In title II of the bill under the heading "BILATERAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE—FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT—OPERATING EXPENSES OF THE AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT", after the first dollar amount insert "(decreased by \$1,100,000)".

In title IV of the bill under the heading "MULTILATERAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE—FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT—CONTRIBUTION TO THE MULTILATERAL INVESTMENT GUARANTEE AGENCY", after the dollar amount insert "(decreased by \$4,900,000)".

In title IV of the bill under the heading "MULTILATERAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE—FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT—CONTRIBUTION TO THE INTER-AMERICAN INVESTMENT CORPORATION", after the dollar amount insert "(decreased by \$9,000,000)".

H.R. 4811

OFFERED BY: MR. ROEMER

Amendment No. 2: In title II of the bill under the heading "BILATERAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE—FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT—DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE", in the proviso relating to the Microenterprise Initiative, strike "not less than one-half" and all that follows and insert "not less than one-half shall be made available for providing loans in the amount (in 1995 United States dollars) of \$300 or less to very poor people, particularly women, or for institutional support of organizations primarily engaged in making such loans."